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2. If a person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., address COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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MASSACHUSETTS DISASTERS.

Two More Hampshire County Reservoirs Give Way.

Great Destruction of Property, but No Loss of Life.

Boston and Albany Railroad Damaged for Twenty Miles.

No Rail Communication Between Springfield and Albany.

Mills, Bridges and Private Dwellings Swept Away.

Damage Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars.

Still Other Breaks in Berkshire County.

TWO MILL DAMS GONE DOWN.

Damage to Roads, Bridges and Crops.

RAILROAD TRAVEL SERIOUSLY IMPEDED

SPRINGFIELD, July 13.—Details are coming to hand of a second flood in Hampshire county, Massachusetts, caused by the giving away of the reservoir of a factory at the village of Middlefield. The *Union* gives the following particulars in its noon edition:

The reservoir was situated on Middlefield brook, which empties into the west branch of the Westfield river at Middleford switch. It covered nearly one hundred acres, and was built about thirty years ago by Uriah Church, father of the present owner. The dam gave way once before it was finished, but since its completion it has been regarded as safe for the purpose of furnishing additional water for the large new mill, now being erected. It was the completion of this work which was to be

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1874.

IT WAS General HILLYER, the last remaining officer of the original staff of General GRANT, who died at Washington last Sunday, who on the final day of the siege of Fort Donelson, penned the ever memorable despatch at the dictation of his commanding officer: "I propose to move immediately on your works."

THE Liberals and the Democracy are not coquetting together as fondly as they were. It has been a case of mutual mistake, like that of the two Irishmen, who, fancying they knew each other, crossed the street to shake hands. "Pardon," cried one, on discovering his error. "Don't mention it," responded the other. "You see, I thought it was you, and you thought it was me, and faith it was neither of us!"

AN IMPORTANT matter to be remembered by the Republicans of this State is, that under the new Constitution the ten day assessment is abolished, and that all voters must now be registered sixty days before the election, when the registration lists will be returned to the commissioners. As the election is to take place on the third of November, it is the duty of every voter to register himself by the first of September.

THE Grangers of California are somewhat ahead of their brethren in other States, being far enough along in their co-operative practice to establish a bank. The Grangers' Bank at San Francisco will have a capital of five million dollars, divided into fifty thousand shares of one hundred dollars each. There are already over one thousand subscribers, and the aggregate of the subscriptions exceeds a million dollars.

NEARLY all calamities have their compensations. A number of English and French manufacturers, under the present prolonged pressure of adverse circumstances, are said to be turning their eyes to this country, and the probabilities are that before long many of the small specialties in manufactures which are not visible here at all, and others which are only partially represented, will acquire considerable importance among us, thereby, to that degree, further lessening our industrial dependence on Europe.

THE Troy *Times* calls attention to the unsatisfactory limitations of the existing treaty for the extradition of criminals between the United States and Great Britain. It appears that they include only the crimes of murder, assault with intent to commit murder, piracy, arson, robbery, forgery, and the utterance of forged paper. It is difficult to see why the list should not be greatly extended, so as to embrace all offenses of criminal nature. There certainly can be no advantage to either country in being made a place of refuge for malefactors from the other, and the insufficiency ought to be remedied without delay.

ACCORDING to the New York papers, the belief is universal among the business men of that city that we are to have a thriving fall trade in all branches, and this feeling of elasticity and buoyancy would probably be still greater were it not for the existence of the financial bear-ring who, in order to depress stocks, endeavor to depress everything else. Headed by JAY GOULD, they are working night and day to check the upward tendency of things generally, and arrest the healthy, cheerful feeling which is developing in commercial circles, in order to carry stocks down to lower figures again, that they may make good their own losses. Can no method of reaching and punishing these unscrupulous conspirators be devised?

THE *Coal and Iron Record* gives some interesting particulars concerning a new source of wealth which is opening up for the people of the Pacific Coast. A recent SAN Francisco importation of one hundred tons of pig iron from Oregon sold for $45 per ton, which is $4 higher than the average quality of Eastern or English pig, and $9 higher than some qualities of the latter. Oregon, it appears, tried once before to supply the California market with pig iron, but failed to effect her aim. Another trial is now to be made, whether with better results, time alone can determine. The movement will be fraught with great consequences to the States of the Pacific coast, if successful, since it will measurably enable them to meet their home demands for machinery, agricultural implements, etc.

THE great manufacturing corporations of New England do not seem, after all, to have been very disastrously affected by the panic—at least not if their July dividends are to be taken in evidence. As compared with January last the Amoskeag has increased from 6 to 8 per cent., Jackson 4 to 7, Langdon 5 to 8, Merrimack 5 to 6, Nashua 4 to 6 and Stark 5 to 6 per cent. The Lowell Machine Shop from five per cent. against 4 in November last, and the Boston, Hamilton, Lancaster and Lawrence corporations each divide the same as six months ago. Only one, the Appleton, has decreased from 4 to 3 per cent. The Lowell and other companies have not yet announced any dividends, but will shortly do so, and they are confidently expected to declare increased profits during the last six months.

ST. LOUIS papers publish the text of an important decision just rendered by Judge DILLON, of the United States Circuit Court, in which the retrospective operation of the amended bankrupt law is considered. In the matter of the bankruptcy of a firm in that city, adjudication of bankruptcy was made prior to the passage of the amendments, and the case was pending for settlement. The District Court Judge held that the effect of the amendments was to require the petitioning creditors to amend their petitions so as to make them conform to the requirements of the law as amended, before further proceedings could be had. Judge DILLON, however, reverses this decision, and holds that the amendments requiring certain allegations to the creditors' petition, which were not necessary before the amendments were passed, do not apply to cases in which adjudications of bankruptcy were made prior to June 22, 1874, the date on which the amendments went into force. This decision is of interest to all courts having jurisdiction of bankruptcy cases.

DO THE Democratic managers imagine they can cover up their own sins by loud-mouthed invectives concerning the shortcomings of others? The Democracy of South Carolina, for instance, are not one whit less to blame for the prevalence of the evils which afflict that unhappy State than are the Republicans. Here is what the Abbeville *Medium*, a paper of pronounced Democratic views, has to say upon the subject:

"What has the Democracy done for the State since the war? Worse than nothing. Year after year, in counties where they have the majority, they have returned men to the office incapable, vacillating and dishonest. In the Legislature of this State the Democrats have been a stumbling-block in the way of even an honest Republican. They have voted for almost every fraudulent measure, supported nearly every dishonest speculation when their own individual interests were concerned, and voted in direct opposition to the good of their constituents in every instance. We hope better nominations will be made in the Democratic counties. It is foolish for people to grumble and quarrel about Republican dishonesty when the Democratic office-holders are so corrupt."

Suppose the Democracy were to cleanse their own gutters before complaining of the condition of their neighbors' sidewalks.

CHICAGO FIRE.

Another great fire in Chicago is an event to confound rather than surprise the world. The disaster is another illustration of the constant peril of conflagration to which American cities are exposed. It would be uncharitable as well as unreasonable to doubt that, in vivid remembrance of their recent desolation, and in consideration of the danger to which the position of their city exposes them, the people of Chicago have exercised more than common vigilance not only in guarding against fire, but in making provisions for effectually resisting its ravages. It is safe to assume that no precaution as to both these particulars which foresight could suggest was neglected. No doubt, the fire department was as perfect in all respects as it could be made by ingenuity, enterprise and liberality. No machinery of approved construction and efficiency, no skill, training or experience on the part of the men placed in charge of the apparatus, was wanting to insure, so far as practicable in mere human instrumentality, the success of an encounter with the destroying element. Of course, the best possible arrangements existed for promptly giving the alarm, and no room was left for the occurrence of mistakes or delay in concentrating the resisting forces at the scene. And as to the avoidance of those accidents in which fires so frequently originate, one may not doubt either the prudence or the rational timidity which does what it can to prevent them. But in spite of the presence of all these conditions guarantying, as it might seem, the safety of the city, at least from any considerable conflagration, a fire kindled in broad day-light has resulted in an extent of desolation which would be called appalling by people who had not faced and survived the catastrophe of 1871. It is also, we believe, admitted that but for a capricious or providential change of the wind, the fire of day before yesterday might and probably would have been as great a disaster as the fire in comparison with which it seems almost insignificant.

The people who rebuilt such a city as Chicago in three years will certainly not fail to learn whatever lessons this fresh calamity may teach. Taking for granted, as we have done, that they had devised and put in practice all such measures as they thought necessary to prevent a repetition of the disaster, we need not hastily assume that their ingenuity was exhausted, or that they find themselves helpless in the presence of the new catastrophe. We may well believe the intellectual resources of Chicago inexhaustible. Former precautions having proved inadequate, new precautions marked by fresh devices and surprising contrivances will be applied. Another lesson of the fire is one which, however clearly taught by the fire of 1871, was not by it sufficiently brought home to and impressed upon the minds of all the inhabitants. There were men as resolute to build and live in houses of wood after as before that memorable event. That fancy we may suppose to have at length been forever banished from the Chicagoan mind. Henceforth it will hardly be possible for a citizen of the place to feel any confidence in its safety or even probable exemption from desolation until fire proof materials shall enter as largely as possible into its construction. The lesson in this direction so emphatically taught Chicago is one too which, we need hardly say, some other cities might heed with much prospective advantage.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Let us have all the facts, Tilton:
"For none ever feared that the truth should be told.
But they whom the truth would indict."

A new peril for children: kidnapping.

The Democratic countersign this year is —reaction.

A reunion of the old abolitionists of Kansas is suggested.

How lucid! A Chicago paper deplores "the absence of recent rains."

Motto for the Cincinnati *Enquirer*: "In the *World* ye shall have tribulations."

One-fourth of the water of Puget Sound is said to be spawn of the jelly fish. Fishy.

Yesterday we heard a man say "it's as hot as ginger," but he didn't mean "ginger" at all.

Oh, for a week at Lake Mohawk, New York! The Vassar College girls are waiters there.

Improved phlebotomy. Hereafter the taxes in Cuba are to be paid "quarterly in advance."

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company is about re-establishing its shops at Bordentown, New Jersey.

We suspect that Tom Collins originated that canard concerning Vice President Wilson's resignation.

Of all living journalists, Dana is the most unique embodiment of moral obliquity there is in the world.

There are still a few reservoirs left in Western Massachusetts, and any number of dams among the people.

The New York *Times* and *Sun* have organized a mutual admiration society, and the other papers are tickled.

Friendship is generally to be prized. Yesterday, however, an icedated condition was decidedly to be preferred.

By a recent discovery, cotton can be directly spun from the seed without its subjection to the ginning process.

One Cincinnati paper charges another with "professing an assumption." Here's a rare chance for the philologist.

Hurry up those Beecher disclosures. Breathing such fetid air debilitates and tends to a morbid moral sentiment.

A grand mass convention of ex-soldiers is to be held in a forest of one hundred acres near Caldwell, Ohio, September 17 and 18.

There is a marked wane in the humor of Mark Twain. But then he resides in Hartford, where everybody is a real estate agent or insurance director.

You would never have known, unless we had told you, that the late abundant rains were caused by the tail of the comet overturning the dipper.

Do you know that fiddling will cure nervous diseases, and that a trumpet solo will banish catalepsy? At least an emi-French physician says so.

An old gander was recently killed in Virginia at the age of ninety, by drinking lye out of a trough. Here is a warning for readers of Democratic papers.

And now Washington City has a cholera scare. An old sea captain died there on Tuesday after an illness of a few hours from a disease much resembling cholera.

"What is the reason that all the girls who have snakes in their stomachs live in Baltimore?" inquires the *Augusta Journal*.

Because it's the only State that has a "Snake Gap."

"The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL evidently thinks no good thing can come out of this State."—*St. Louis Dispatch.*

Not at all. What we do think is that few good things stay in it.

The amount paid on account of claims of loyal citizens for supplies furnished during the rebellion, as awarded by the Southern Claims Commissioners, to July 13, 1874, is $277,038.

The Boston wool sales of the past three weeks foot up in round numbers seven million pounds, valued at about three millions of dollars—a pretty large business for dull times.

Methuselah Allen really believes he shall receive the Democratic Presidential nomination; and swears that in all the bright lexicon of youth there's no such word as fail.

The fruit crop in California is very abundant this year, while for size, beauty of color and delicious flavor, they bear away the palm from anything produced elsewhere in the country.

The Supreme Court of Michigan has just decided that the general act in that State for the incorporation of villages, passed at the Legislative session of 1873, is unconstitutional and void.

Boston is running the name of Washington into the ground. It has five Washington streets, three Washington places, one Washington court, one Washington park and one Washington avenue.

The *Courier-Journal* mentions a report that Sam Bard is to start a newspaper in the Dismal Swamp. Nothing strange in that. Every paper he has thus far started has sunded in a dismal swamp.

The Chicago *Times* has been making an analysis of all the various groceries sold in that city, and charges that adulteration is the rule without exception. We suspect that it runs into journalism also.

The July days grow hotter, and the tiger lilies in the hedges grow yellow and blaze, and the juicies of apple and grape become akin to wine, and the fine intoxication mounts into the heads of young girls and their lovers.

The New York *World* graphically speaks of "an illustrated paper that bourgeoned in paragraphs as if it had been edited by salacious monkeys." The conductor of the paper referred to was once the *World's* principal writer.

Healthiness of Cities.

There is no doubt, under proper conditions, a residence in the city is more healthy and more conducive to longevity than a residence in the country. Nor does accurate investigation prove that a well-regulated city is unhealthy to any adult class, or that it is necessarily more fatal to health in propotion to its magnitude and population. London, the largest city in the world, is the healthiest. Its mortality, including all its unhealthy districts, is lighter than that of the other great cities of Europe or of the United States.

Dr. Bowditch, in behalf of the Massachusetts Board of Health, reports that in certain rural districts, both inland and on the seashore, in certain towns and in certain dwelling houses there is always to be found a development of some constitutional disease. The fact has been established in regard to consumption. Common observation shows that valleys in mountainous districts are not as healthy as the upper part of the mountains, where there is sunlight throughout the day, and that the bad drainage, damp atmospheres, and malarial exhalations of all thinly populated lowlands are injurious in their effects upon life. There are tracts of land in all parts of the country where severe agnues are common, showing their influences in a general impairment of health and in a diminished longevity of the people.—*Independent.*

REPUBLICAN COUNTY TICKET.

FOR CONGRESS—TWENTY-SECOND DISTRICT,
JAMES S. NEGLEY, Pittsburgh.

FOR CONGRESS—TWENTY-THIRD DISTRICT,
THOMAS M. BAYNE, Allegheny.

FOR STATE SENATE—FORTY-SECOND DISTRICT,
HUGH McNEILL, Allegheny.

FOR STATE SENATE—FORTY-FOURTH DISTRICT,
JNO. C. NEWMYER, Wilkins Township.

FOR STATE SENATE—FORTY-FIFTH DISTRICT,
MILES S. HUMPHREYS, Pittsburgh.

FOR ASSEMBLY—FIRST DISTRICT,
HENRY M. LONG,
W. H. GRAHAM,
HENRY GERWIG.

FOR ASSEMBLY—SECOND DISTRICT,
JAMES ONSLOW,
CHARLES JEREMY.

FOR ASSEMBLY—FOURTH DISTRICT,
D. B. MORRISON,
S. J. WAINWRIGHT,
J. P. McCORD,
JAMES LARIMER.

FOR ASSEMBLY—FIFTH DISTRICT,
B. C. CHRISTY, Sewickley,
H. K. SAMPLE.

FOR ASSEMBLY—SIXTH DISTRICT,
A. B. YOUNG,
GEORGE ARCHIBALD.

FOR JUDGE ORPHANS' COURT,
W. G. HAWKINS, Jr., Wilkins Township.

FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
E. A. MONTOOTH, Pittsburgh.

FOR ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY,
JOHN McQUAIDE, Etna.

FOR COMMISSIONER,
G. W. WEDDELL, McKeesport Borough.

FOR DIRECTOR OF THE POOR,
HENRY R. CHALFANT.

PERSONAL.

The statement that Longfellow is writing a biography of Charles Summer is authoritatively denied by the Boston *Gazette*—and we are sorry.

It is announced that Gould, the Boston sculptor, has produced in marble the Ghost in Hamlet and "most successfully." As the evasive ghost was quite unlikely to be persuaded to give a sitting for his statue, the likeness must be "in my mind's eye Horatio,"

It seems that a fresh complication has arrisen in the case of Représentative Sloss, of Alabama. The young man is thought to be in a fair way of recovery, and if he gets out, it is regarded as certain that he will bushwack Mr. Sloss, unless the latter succeeds in shooting him first. As the situation is described in Tuscumbia, Sloss is in more danger if his victim recovers than if he dies, and Sloss is tried for killing him.

Dignified Boston gentleman; daughter lovely, seventeen; dissipated and impecunious youth; tender passion; enraged Boston gentleman; elopement of lovely and seventeen with dissipated and impecunious; furious Boston gentleman; repentant youth at the feet of furious age; age tenders youth thousands in greenbacks and pass to Europe; youth sails over the seas and bride bewails. This in brief is the latest Eastern social sensation.

Miss Agnes Strickland, best known, perhaps, through her "Queens of England," died yesterday in the sixty-ninth year of her age. Miss Strickland was one of the few literary ladies who have devoted themselves to careful and accurate historical research, and who have acquired a high order of scholarship. Her books have been among the most charming histories we have, so that her death will be profoundly regretted by many who only know her through the pleasant pages she has written.

Captain Roach of the steamship West Indian, plying between Mexico and Texas and Baltimore, lately did a handsome thing. The daughter of a wealthy Mexican don was running away with her husband, whom she had just married against her father's will. They were both young and she was beautiful. They had come aboard at Vera Cruz, with two boxes of Mexican specie and high hopes. When the West Indian stopped at Brazos the irate father of the bride and his dusky followers came aboard and demanded his daughter. Capt. Roach refused to give her up without an order from the city authorities. The old man went to interview the authorities, and before he could get back with the documents Capt. Roach and the West Indian had moved on. He hurried up his business and hastened his departure, because he did not want to loose any of his passengers. So the old man lost his daughter and his ducats, and the vessel had a prosperous passage to Baltimore.

OHIO NEWS.

A reliable correspondent writes us from Sunfish, Monroe county, as follows, concerning the crops in that section: Wheat is most extraordinarily good—better than for many years. Rye is very short. Oats are almost a failure. The prospect for grapes is good. Aside from wheat, the farmers assert that everything is "burned up." The weather has been so dry that many have not sufficient feed for their stock. People had to drive their cattle to runs or creeks, miles away, for water. Some farmers have already sold a part of their stock at a great sacrifice, on account of the lack of fodd for them. On the 11th inst. a good rain fell. Hay and oats are "done for," but corn, potatoes, etc., may be saved.

The New Postal Law—Its Probable Effects.

[From the New York Post, July 7.]

We have already called attention to the new postal law, and to the fact that the amount of merchandise, samples, etc., which may be sent for the present letter postage has been increased from twelve ounces to four pounds, and that the latter quantity can now be carried for but thirty-two cents. On inquiry at the Post Office to-day it was found that the new provisions had not yet affected the bulk of mail matter to an appreciable extent, but it was thought that a considerable change would be perceptible when the public became familiar with the increased privileges.

Even under the old law, it was said, the quantity of matter sent for less than letter postage was much greater than is generally supposed. One firm in this city, for instance, makes a great quantity of uppers for patent leather boots and sends them through the mail; shoe dealers in all parts of the country, a pair of uppers just coming within the old limit as to weight. Now, it is supposed, with the reduction in postage, this business will be correspondingly increased, as will that of the large millinery establishments which now fill small orders through the mails for ribbons, laces, etc., from different parts of the Union. There is nothing now to hinder the latter from sending dress patterns in the same way, if customers are willing to take the risk of loss in transit.

A dealer in musical instruments visited the Post Office to-day to obtain information in regard to the law, and became satisfied that he could forward by mail at a cheap rate nearly all the articles in his stock of goods.

It has also been suggested that tea dealers could do a profitable business by mailing packages of not more than four pounds in weight to customers in country towns, who would thereby obtain their tea at not much less than is usually charged by village shopkeepers, while the city dealer would secure his usual price.

If the cost of postage were the only thing to be considered, tailors might find no obstacle in mailing whole suits of clothes, but nothing can now be registered on which letter postage is not prepaid, and the risk of loss, it is said, will probably prevent the transmission of many valuable articles in this manner. An experienced officer in the Post Office to-day spoke of this as a defect in the law, saying that he thought the fee of five cents for every registration would be sufficient to defray the expenses of the increased clerical labor.

A lady living in the country had her attention drawn one day to some rats in an outer room, surrounding a pail which had been prepared for the pigs. Observing them carefully, she soon discovered that a young rat had fallen into the pail, and that his friends, to the number of five or six, where in consultation as to the best means of rescuing him. The lady called others of her family to witness the rats' manoeuvres, while they continued busily at work, regardless of the presence of the spectators. By twining their feet together (the hind feet of the foremost rat being entwined by the fore feet of the next, and so on), they formed a chain extending over the side of the pail. The foremost rat, supposed to be the mother, then reached down, grasped the young one in her arms, and both were drawn out on the floor. Unfortunately, their deliberations had occupied so much time that the young rat was drowned before he was extricated, and apparently the intelligence of his friends did not extend so far as to attempt resuscitation.

M. A. HUET, a French engineer, holds it to be a mistake to make ships force their bulk through the water, meeting thereby the large opposing surface of water and a sliding friction over the whole of their immersed surface. This, M. Huet holds, is as great a mistake as if we were to dismount our railway carriages from their wheels and drag them like sledges along the rails. He puts forward the theory that vessels should be mounted on rolling drums; that these drums should give principally the power of flotation, and that they should be driven round as paddles to move the ship forward. We should in this way have a floating locomotive, mounted on its supporting wheels or rollers. The vessel would offer no resistance but a rolling one to motion, and the whole of the supported weight of the ship would be used as a pressure to give adhesive frictional effect to the rollers. In this way M. Huet affirms that a velocity equal to that of our railroad trains might be attained at sea.

The constitutional inaptitude for veracity from which the opposition press suffers, is once more actively manifesting itself.

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 15, 1874.

Spanish Cause in Cuba.

A naval officer, recently arrived from the West India fleet, does not give a very flattering account of the condition of the Spanish cause in Cuba, the ever faithful isle. The Spanish Admiral in Cuba, in a recent conversation with an officer of our navy, admitted the decadence of Spanish power in the West Indies, remarking that there was great need of more troops, that the forces from Spain were much depleted in numbers and spirit, that a new call upon the home government was made very recently, but that the activity of military operations there, precludes much hope from that quarter. The volunteers are not counted as reliable at all times, and it is not known at what moment they may start a rebellion of their own. The Admiral admitted that the past year has been a losing one for Spain, in a military point of view, on the island. It is now proposed to abandon entirely the eastern part of the island, with the exception of the ports, which will be defended to the last. All operations in the future will be confined to a rigid blockade of the coast, so as to prevent the introduction of arms and ammunition. The insurrectionary region is being fenced in with a sort of stockade, strengthened by block houses at short intervals. It is not designed to make any further attempts to suppress the insurrection within these lines. The naval officer states that he believes that our troubles with Spain are by no means ended; that the more desperate the Spanish cause, the greater the delicacy of our relation with the island, and that rather than surrender that valuable portion of the Spanish possession in quiet submission to imperative necessity, Spain would engage in a quarrel with the hated Americans.

The Treasurer Asserts His Rights.

General Spinner has gotten himself into a controversy with some of the higher officials of the Treasury Department on account of their attempted interference with the management of his office, especially in the matter of organizing the force created National Bank Redeeming agency. He says the civil service system is dead, and he proposed to fill vacancies in his office to suit himself. There is every prospect of an issue with the Secretary, in which the Treasurer might come out second best.

Something About Comets—The Observatory Observing—No Danger of a Collision—The Comet of 1770 in Conflict With Jupiter's Satellites—Mr. Comet Comes Off Second Best—A Running History of the Visitants of the Present Century—The American View Proof—A Few Figures About Diameters, Tails, Orbits, &c.—Comets in League With Human Events.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 15, 1874.

Having completed their well devised and elaborate plans for the observation of the transit of Venus in December next, and having dispatched parties to various points in the northern and the southern parts of the Eastern Hemisphere where alone this astronomical event of the century will be visible, Rear Admiral DAVIS and his corps of astronomers still left with him at the Naval Observatory are varying their regular nightly surveys of the starry canopy of the heavens, with glances at the latest celestial stranger, the Coggia comet. The scientific data collected is of no interest to the reader, but the subject generally possesses considerable attraction just at this moment. The astronomers of the Naval Observatory seem to have great contempt for the combative or butting capabilities of comets. The comet of 1770 dashed off towards the sun (comets, it appears, have a fondness for the sun), but *en route* got tangled up with the satellites of Jupiter, and had four months' controversy before it became fairly extricated. Jupiter rolled on in its wide orbit, followed by its satellites, entirely unabashed by the encounter, and the same capricious visitant came within a short journey (1,400,000 miles) of the earth, but the latter held her own. Yet had the quantity of matter even equal to that in the earth, the latter would have been attracted out of its present orbit. The disconcerting result of this state of things would have been, that Miss USHER's calendar, revised by the thirteenth Pope, Gregory, then just coming into general use among the nations of Christendom, would have been knocked completely out of time, and some new Julius Cæsar or Pope Gregory would have been required to set the year to rights. From the above facts we conclude that the second Adventists will have no fear, nor for some device of heaven's artillery other than a bomb-like comet with a frisky tail to demolish this kindly mundane sphere. The most remarkable comets of the present century were those of 1805, 1811, 1843, 1858, 1860, 1861, 1862 and 1864. The comet of 1811 according to all the light of astronomical science now available, is the most remarkable of those named. When visible it appeared with dazzling brilliancy for a few week and then launched out in space taking the wide sweep of an orbit of 3,065 years.

The comet of the winter of 1843 is said to have been the brightest of the century. It was this that stired the disciples of MILLER to invade the tents with illusions of robes and await in the frosty winter night the grand smash up of the earth and second coming of Christ. As every one knows the earth still whirls in its appointed space.

DONATI's comet which created such a commotion in 1858 had a tail 58,000,000 miles long and flourished at a distance of 240,000,000 miles from the earth during part of the months of August and September.

In ancient times comets were the favorite subjects of human superstition. As the Americans say in its nonsense, they were fears neither man nor devil, a fine chance for an awestruck people was wasted on the comets of 1809, 1811, 1812 and 1864. In former days some prognosticated wars, famines, or some other disturbance. It is not remembered that there was much fear and trembling even if the comet of 1809 did witness the temporary and successful disruption of the American Union, or that of 1861 the marshalling of American citizens for the defense of the Constitution against the rebellion, or that of 1862, the first of a doubtful conflict, or that of 1864, the march of the Union to triumph after triumph. It is a coincidence at least, not being superstitious in the sense in which we should have been four comets during the progress of our war.

Speaking about Coggia's comet, the present object of curious attention, it may be said that is now at its brightest, being only the trifling distance of 62,000,000 miles from the earth. On the 20th of the present month it will be half that distance but not much brighter. We continue to mount leisurely at the rate of 1,000,000 miles a day.

From the sources of information at the Observatory the following other interesting facts were obtained. The total quantity of the comets of the Nineteenth century, satisfactorily measured, were that of 1811, 428 miles; 1805, 5,300 miles; 1858, 5,600 miles; 1845, 8,000 miles.

The length of cometary tails which have fanned the skies during the progress of the principal visitors of the last two centuries were: 1744, 19,000,000; 1769, 30,000,000 miles; 1861, 24,000,000 miles; 1769, 40,000,000 miles; 1858, 42,000,000 miles; 1618, 50,000,000 miles; 1680, 100,000,000 miles; 1811 the same; 1843, 200,000,000, and 1874 uncomputed. The cometary orbits have varied from 383,800,000 miles perhelion distance of the comet of 1729, the greatest down to 35,000 of that of the comet of 1843 the smallest ever known. The aphelion distances ranged from 406,130,000,000 miles, comet of 1811, to 2,585,250,000 miles, Encke's comet, the greatest and least orbits ever known in aphelion distance.

Astronomical history gives us an authentic account of eight hundred comets. Many more (about five thousand) have been seen during the past century by means of improved instruments, but possess no special features.

The visible existence of comets differ, as in every other respect. That of 1811 could be seen for seventeen months; and that of 1843 eighteen months. The others known came between these.

A compilation from the works in the valuable library of the Observatory relating to long lists of important events associated with comets. The following are some of those events:

We are told by HYGINUS, a contemporary of OVID, that on the fall of Troy, ELECTRA, one of the Pleiads, quitted the company of her six sisters, and passed along the heavens to the Arctic pole, where she remained visible in tears and with dishevelled hair, to which the name of comet is applied.

On the departure of the expedition of THMOLEON from Corinth for Sicily the gods annonced his success and future greatness by an extraordinary prodigy. A burning torch appeared in the heavens for an entire night, and went before the fleet into Sicily.

After the death of DEMETRIUS, King of Syria, a little before the war in Achaia, there appeared a comet as large as the sun.

At the birth of MITHRIDATES a comet appeared and lasted seventy days. The heavens appeared on fire. This was 134 B. C. When he ascended the throne 118 B. C., another comet appeared for seventy days, exactly like the first.

Before the battle of Fontenay, June 25, 841, a comet was seen in Sagittarius.

At the time of the death of Pope Benedict III, in 858, a comet appeared in the East.

The death of the Emperor LOUIS II, in 875, was announced by a blazing star, like a torch. In 877, the second year of the entrance of Charles the Bald into Italy, a comet was seen. That year the Emperor died.

THEODILON, Bishop of Tours, set out from Laon to return home, and was taken sick. Just after taking the sacrament he died. At that instant a luminous comet appeared traversing the sky.

The death of CASIMER, King of Poland, was announced by a comet.

The Emperor Conrad set out for Palestine May, 1147, and his departure was preceded by a comet.

In 1208 celestial signs announced the death to BEOMOND, Archbishop of Treves.

James II., King of Scotland, was killed August 3, 1460. The evening before a very brilliant comet, with a long tail, was seen.

In 1561 the death of Ferdinand, the Catholic King of Arragon, was announced by a comet, which lasted many days.

The last comet employed in an astrological character was that of 1769, which Napoleon I. looked upon as his protecting genius, and regarded it with profound superstition and reverence.

What wonderful development will be announced in connection with Coggia's comet of 1874 remains to be seen. Perhaps it has some connection with the final demolition of the Grand Republic.

DEB. R. K.

CHICAGO IN FLAMES.

ANOTHER TERRIBLE CONFLAGRATION.

LOSS MORE THAN FOUR MILLIONS.

An Area of Fifteen Squares Burned Over.

List of Principal Buildings Destroyed

Loss to Insurance Companies Between Two and Three Millions.

Partial List of the Losing Companies.

Graphic Description of the Desperate Fight With the Fiery Monster.

CHICAGO, July 14.—A fire broke out at about half-past four o'clock this afternoon, in some small frame houses near the corner of Fourth avenue and Polk street. It was at first blown in a southerly direction by a stiff breeze, but the wind soon shifted and by sunset was blowing a gale from the south, sending the flames towards the central part of the city.

AT HALF PAST SIX O'CLOCK,

the fire had made almost a clear sweep up to the corner of Third avenue and Polk street, burning up the homes of thousands of people. At the above corner the Fire Department commenced the process of blowing up buildings with gunpowder, but the buildings experimented with were small wooden affairs and would only have the effect of making a quicker blaze of them, and the wind blowing as it does very fresh from about south-southeast, the fire is now on the verge of the fire line of our big fire, at Harrison street.

ON WABASH AVENUE.

The west side of Wabash avenue is now in full blaze, which takes many a stately building in its course which offered a haven of refuge in the winter of 1871. The fire is just immediately in rear of the First Baptist church, and should that go down the fire will have a clear sweep to the northward and eastward, and the Exposition building will, in all likelihood, be the final prey of the fire, and as that is immediately on the lake shore, there will be nothing further for the fire to feed upon, provided we have the good fortune to have a change of wind.

A DENSE BLACK PALL

of smoke is hanging over the expected course of the fire, dropping its advance messengers of cinders on the roofs of buildings. Although private citizens are doing their utmost to do all that is in their power in trying to prevent the fire getting a hold upon their homes, yet the effort is futile. The roar of the advancing furnace has the sound of our old calamity, and nothing short of its final plunge into Lake Michigan will quench it.

SAVING PERSONAL PROPERTY

Our streets within a mile of the conflagration are crowded with teams of every description, loaded to the utmost capacity with household goods. Although storekeepers who are so fortunate as to secure a team are endeavoring to save their most valuable stock, whenever a space north of of the fire can be found, it is at once filled with goods of all descriptions and variety. Men, women and children are doing their utmost to save their "little all" and bringing it to some place of safety.

THE PROBABLE EXTENT OF THE FIRE

from this on will burn up as much in five minutes as it has previously in fifteen, considering the value in dollars and cents. The heat is very great and there is no doubt that in addition to the pecuniary losses, we will have to mourn the loss of lives, as it is next to impossible for a fire of this magnitude and fury to burn itself out as closely a settled district as this has, without calling for many a human sacrifice.

THE POSTOFFICE AND MAILS.

As the postoffice is directly in the line of the conflagration, its employees will have all they can do to save the mail matter in the building, and consequently there will no mails leave the city this evening, and there will be nothing to be sent before to-morrow evening, should the department be successful in saving their valuables.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION.

The principal lines of the Western Union Telegraph Company running east through State street, some forty wires, have all been burnt, but as the lines on Canal street are out of all possible danger, there will be no interruption of telegraphic communication. The fire has burnt over so far, about

HALF A MILE IN LENGTH,

and some four blocks in width, and although the explosion of gunpowder still is heard every little while, there is but little hope of staying the fire short of the limits given above.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH DESTROYED.

As predicted in the previous dispatch, the fire swept into and over the elegant First Baptist church, on Wabash avenue, and what was this evening, before sundown, one of the most elegant and costly church edifices of our city, is now but a smouldering heap of ruins.

POSTOFFICE BUILDING BURNED.

As it was very evident from the course of the fire and the strength of the wind at about half six o'clock, that the postoffice building was in all probability doomed, General MCARTHUR, our Postmaster, made arrangements at once to remove the mails to a place of safety, and all needed teams were at once pressed into the service by him. By eight o'clock, six on the south and six on the north side of Polk street, eight; on the south side, four; on the north side of Harrison street, twelve; on the south side, sixteen; on the south side of Twelfth street, thirteen; on the north side, twenty-two. The most prominent among the business houses are: H. SIL. ROSENFELD; William Dunham, druggist; the Remington Empire Sewing Machine Company; E. Remington & Sons, gun and pistol manufactory; P. L. Smith & Co., carriage manufacturers; Jas. Thomson Brothers, boots and shoes; C. C. Charles, lamps and reflectors; H. Slade, carriages; A. W. Wheeler, hardware; G. McHenry, jr., hardware; William Bodmann, brass works; Schwarer & Hubber, stoves, &c.; B. E. Givandan & Trosted, rings, &c; P. M. Platt, clothing; P. H. Mayer, L. C. Chase & Co., wholesale liquor dealers; A. Schreferstein & Bro., furniture manufacturers; M. W. & E. Lester, furnaces ranges, &c; Frost & Co., wholesale liquors; John D. MacClean & Co., stoves and ranges; H & M. Newberger, furniture; Van Bramer & Flood, hardware and stoves; Zeng & Beck, billiards; Peter Murray & Co., blacksmiths; Maudel & Brothers, dry goods; Berg House, Horace Buckminster, restaurant; P. M. Mahler, artists' materials; Murphy, cigars, &c.; Greeman & Strickland, poultry and game; John M. Lowry & Co., meat; Joel Biglow, Pekin Tea Co.; W. L. Cole, blacksmith; Henry Doehl, boots and shoes; E. D. Moseley, goods; Sinclair Bros., hirdware and stoves; Mrs. E. Berg, milliner; E. J. Malcom & Co., stoves and tinware; Weber & Luckhardt, druggists; F. Baller & Co., grocers; C. H. Jumnich, tailor; C. E. Lohman, photographer; H. C. Kleineschmidt, watches, &c. West Side—S. Wingrade, Jr. & Co., gas fixtures; Adolphi Theater; Pennoyer & Co., carriage manufacturers; William E. Spencer & Co., cutlery, &c.; Cowperthwait & Co., publishers; Woolworth, Ainsworth & Co., publishers; S. C. Griggs & Co., publishers; Postoffice; Carney, Haskell & Kearney, printers; Miss A. T. Ryan, umbrellas, &c.; T. M. Fassett, photographer; *Our Fireside Friend*; *Northwestern Lumberman*; *New Covenant*; Chicago Terra Cotta Company; Davis Swing machine company; Mrs. Stoughton, millinery; Pennoyer, Shaw & Co., carriage manufacturers; Pat. O'Neil, liquors; Chicago Fine Art Institute; Enoch Root, artist; Schureman & Hand's Mantel Company, L. L. Schureman, S. B. Powell, Leonard W. Valk, William H. Delain and S. Hand, proprietors; L. W. Valk, sculptor, &c.; James Morris Arnold, artist; Daniel T. Rigdon, artist; H. T. Brooks, artist; Laurits Holst, artist; Arthur Pirsson, artist; J. A. R. Robertson, figure and portrait artist; Fine Art Academy; Thos. Beakeer, drugs; R. C. Anthey, livery stable; A. J. Hopkins, veterinary surgeon; Barber & Orelli, china and glassware; Boomer & Jenkins, furnaces; Galvanized Iron Cornice Works; Louis Gaeger & Brother, wines and liquors. Northwest corner—Bangs Brothers, hardware and stoves; Schureman & Hand Mantle Company; W. Smith & Co., mantles and grates; N. P. Izlehard & Co., real estate; State street Savings Bank.

Weber and Luckhard, druggists; Charles Egenhardt, surgical instruments; H. Brinkworth, pork packer; L. Kuener, stocking and shirt manufactory; Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad freight depot; Guss & Phillips' Manufacturing Company; Haucher & Carler, livery stable; Ollaway & Larsen, painters; Hart & Goodall, carpenters and builders; H. Willeford, carriages, etc. Hotels—Atlantic Hotel, Berg House, Michigan Avenue House; St. James; Keyelaty B'nair Sholom Synagogue; First Baptist Church; Kesseth Israel Temple; Moarale Jewish Snyagogue; Olivet Baptist Church, (colored); Jones school building.

RESIDENCES BURNED.

Among the residences burned, were those of Horace White, editor of the *Tribune*, Hon. J. Y. Scammon; J. K. Forest, City Clerk; E. G. Hall, Esq., corner of Peck court and Wabash avenue. This last was very elegantly furnished. Mr. White saved his library.

FIGHTING THE FIEND.

At eight o'clock the fire was checked on Clark street, and then there was no danger that it would pass westward. After that two engines carried the entire field from Polk street south on Clark, around by Twelfth street to Wabash avenue, where the engagement was growing hotter and hotter every moment. When the southern and western ends of the fire had been made secure, the northern and eastern lines of attack were reinforced, the enemy confined into narrower and narrower quarters on Harrison street, and the winds forced to give up Fourth and Third

INDIANA DEMOCRACY.

State Convention at Indianapolis.

Governor Hendricks Elected Permanent Chairman.

Vigorous Abuse of the Republican Party and Administration.

Redemption of Five-Twenties in Greenbacks.

Appointment of Currency to Wants of the Country.

Senators Morton and Pratt Censured for Advocating Civil Rights.

Grangers, Soldiers and Sailors Vaguely Complimented.

THE TICKET AND THE PLATFORM IN FULL.

INDIANAPOLIS, July 15.—The Democratic State Convention assembled at the Academy of Music at 10 o'clock A. M., and was called to order by Hon. J. L. McDonald, Chairman of the State Central Committee. On a call of counties, every county in the State reported full delegations present.

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.

The committee selected by the Congressional delegations last night to report permanent officers for the Convention, made the following report, which was confirmed by the Convention: For President, —Governor T. A. Hendricks; for principal Secretaries—Jas. D. Nichols, John W. Kerr and Jas. H. Price; and one Vice President and one additional Secretary for each Congressional district; also committees on resolutions and finance and a State Central Committee.

After the address of the President, the committee on Resolutions reported the platform and resolutions as follows:

It is the opinion of the Democrats of the State of Indiana, in Convention assembled, that the present administration has proven itself unworthy the confidence of the people of the United States, in proof of which we submit the following facts: It has overthrown by force the government of Louisiana, and prevented the officers elected by the people of that State from taking the positions to which they were chosen, and for party purposes has sustained the usurping State officers in their unlawful seizure of the government of the State. It has corrupted the entire public justice by squandering money through the Department of Justice to aid its party in North Carolina, Arkansas and other States. It has appointed men to office who have proven corrupt and profligate, and has removed from office those who assisted in bringing the depredations and corruption of its appointees to light. It has, by a gross abuse of power, farmed out the collection of the revenue to corrupt and unprincipled men, who have defrauded alike the government and the people. It has appointed to office in the District of Columbia a body of men whose corruption far excelled any of which we have record, and supported them in their oppression and robberies of the people and the government, causing the loss of millions of dollars to the government of the United States and the people of the District of Columbia through the various departments of government. It has recklessly squandered the money reserve and the public domain of the people, and corrupted the civil service of the country. The Republican party must be held responsible for these acts of the Administration it placed in power, and for the Credit Mobilier frauds, the enormous increase of salaries and the Salmon contracts, while, as the oppressor of the white people of the South and as the origin of the corruption that weighs like an incubus on the country, it deserves the severest condemnation.

Therefore, this Convention asks the people to again entrust the Democratic party with the administration of State and country, upon the following principles:

A strict construction of the Constitution of the United States and its amendments, and an impartial enforcement of the laws.

A tariff for the revenue.

A condemnation of all official gratuities in the form of retroactive salaries, State or National.

A condemnation of the attempt of the last Congress to muzzle the press.

Securing to every citizen of the country the equal protection of the laws, without violating the principles of the local self-governments or interfering with the social customs of the people.

Opposition to high fees and salaries, either in the State of Indiana or the United States.

We demand a reduction of salaries, State and National; in the State, such an adjustment and reduction of fees and salaries as will relieve the people from higher State and social taxation.

Resolved, Furth, That we are in favor of the redemption of 5-20 bonds in greenbacks, according to the law under which they were issued.

Second, We are in favor of the repeal of the law of March, 1869, which assumed to construe the law so as to make such bonds payable exclusively in coin.

Third, We are in favor of the repeal of the National Banking law and the substitution of greenbacks for National bank currency.

Fourth, We are in favor of a return to specie payments as soon as the business of the country will permit.

Fifth, We are in favor of such legislation from time to time as will adjust the volume of currency to the commercial and industrial wants of the country.

Sixth, We are in favor of a liberal system of education for the benefit of the negro as well as the white children of Indiana, but oppose the mixture of the blacks and white races in our public schools or educational institutions.

Seventh, The Civil Rights bill, recently passed by the Senate of the United States and now pending in the House of Representatives, presents an issue of vital moment to the American people, and calls upon them to defeat at the ballot box whether they will or will not be coerced to the absolute social, as well as political, equality of the negro race with themselves. We wish also to denounce this attempt on the part of the Federal Government to take control of all schools, colleges, churches, hotels, railroads, steamboats, theaters and graveyards for the purpose of establishing negro equality and enforcing it under numerous penalties of fines, damages and imprisonment. We arraign Senators Morton and Pratt before the people of Indiana for their votes in favor of this atrocious measure, and shall ask for judgment against them at the hands of their constituents, whom they have misrepresented.

Eighth, That the act of February 27th, 1873, commonly known as the Baxter bill, has proven a failure, in many respects of doubtful constitutionality, and is no more efficient in restraining the evils of intemperance than a judicious and well regulated license law. Therefore, we are in favor of the repeal of the Baxter bill and the enactment of such a license law as shall protect society and produce a large increase of the school fund.

Ninth, That railroads and all other corporations created for gain or profit, should be rendered subservient to the public good; that we demand such legislation upon this subject, both State and National, as will effectually secure the industrial and producing interests of the country against all forms of corporate monopoly and exaction.

Tenth, That we are in favor of severe retrenchment, reform and economy in all branches of the public service, and believe that with such economy the taxes now collected from the people for National, State and county purposes might be reduced at least fifty per cent.

Eleventh, That we denounce as a wanton outrage upon the taxable people of Indiana, the increase of the State tax by the last Republican Legislature from five cents to the fifteen cents on the hundred dollars, at the same time changing the rate of assessment so as to increase the valuation of property almost fifty per cent.; that such increase was uncalled for by any public necessity, and we demand the lowest State tax that will support an economical administration, not exceeding five cents on the hundred dollars.

Twelfth, That we believe the Legislature should enact a law restricting and limiting the power of Boards of County Commissioners and Township Trustees to levy taxes and cost on the indebtedness that the people have to pay.

Thirteenth, That we denounce the practice of officers using public money as their own, as pernicious; that its natural results are embezzlement and other abuses in office, and we demand such a change in our laws as will effectually prohibit the use of public money by officers for their private gain.

Fourteenth, That we are opposed to any grants of public lands or loans of the public credit, either in the shape of National, State or local aid, to railroads or other corporations, and we demand that the remaining public lands shall be held for the benefit of actual settlers only, under the Homestead laws.

Fifteenth, That in the formation of associations for mutual protection and improvement, we recognize an effort upon the part of the industrial classes to ameliorate their condition, and we heartily extend to them our sympathy and support.

Sixteenth, We are in favor of the abolition of the office of County Superintendent of Schools, and the repeal of the laws requiring an appraisement of real estate for taxation every two years, and in favor of the restoration of the former law.

Seventeenth, That we bear in grateful remembrance the sacrifices made and the services rendered by the gallant soldiers of the late war in defense of the Union, and we demand, as an act of justice, that the bounties of our soldiers and their widows and orphans shall be equalized by proper legislation.

THE TICKET.

This was followed by the nomination of candidates for State officers, as follows: Secretary of State—J. F. Neff, of Randolph county; Auditor of State—E. Henderson, of Morgan county; Treasurer of State—B. C. Shaw, of Marion county; Superintendent of Public Instruction—J. H. Smart, of Allen county; Attorney General—Daniel Buskirk, of Gibson county; Judge of Supreme Court—Horace P. Biddle, of Cass county. Messrs. Henderson and Biddle are also nominated on the Farmer's ticket.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, July 15, 1874.

The Massachusetts courts have been considering a question of considerable interest to trustees and beneficiaries of funds held in the stock of corporations, whether stock dividends can be considered as income. It appears that in 1868 the Supreme Court of that State decided that where a trust fund, the income of which is by the terms of the trust to be paid to one during his life, and the capital is then to be conveyed to another, includes shares in the stock of a corporation, shares of additional stock, although declared as dividends out of net earnings of the corporation, are to be added as capital to the trust fund and not to go to the party entitled to the income.

The Court lays down that it is a "simple rule to regard cash dividends however large as income, and stock dividends however made as capital;" and states that it "would be practically unwise for courts to go behind the action of the company and attempt to ascertain how they came by funds out of which to declare either cash or stock dividends."

Not long since another case came before the same court in which the four daughters of a testator were entitled under his will to the annual income of certain shares of stock in a manufacturing corporation established in the State of Maine. The semi-annual dividends on this stock had been regularly paid over to the daughters until 1869, when the corporation voted to increase their capital to $1,000,000, by issuing 3,000 shares of new stock at the par value of $100 each. They also declared a dividend of 40 per cent. out of profits, and authorized the treasurer to receive that dividend in payment for 2,800 shares of the new stock, and to sell the remaining 200 shares, and to issue certificates of stock to all purchasers. The profits which made up the 40 per cent. dividend had been invested in property, and the corporation would have divided stock instead of cash if the laws of Maine had allowed stock dividends to be made by manufacturing ing corporations. According to the "simple rule" already laid down by the court this dividend, having been made as a cash dividend, belonged to the daughter of the testator as income. But instead of adhering to their own rule the court investigated the proceedings of the company, and held that as the trustees under the will received a certificate of stock "the substances of the transaction was" that they "received a stock dividend," and that this stock dividend must be treated as capital, notwithstanding the fact that the State where the transaction occurred did not allow stock dividends being made. These conflicting decisions have given rise to a spirited discussion in the *American Law Review*, and a series of pamphlets by "A layman" which will be found of interest to both lawyers and trustees.

—The Superintendent of the National Bank Redemption Agency in the Treasury Department gives the following information in addition to regulations governing the redemption of national bank notes from the 5 per cent. deposits:

Any person is permitted to send bank notes, assorted or unassorted, and of any national bank whatever, to be sent in packages by express under government contract, in sums of $5,000 or multiple thereof, for which returns will be made in new legal tender notes under the contract. The expenses of transportation and insurance on the notes will be charged to the banks by which the notes were issued, and not those by which delivered, in proportion to the circulation redeemed. The notes redeemed will be assorted and charged to the 300 national banks of the United States in the following manner: Assorting babies with fifty-two tills, the size of the notes, will be provided. The 2,000 banks will be divided into fifty sections of about forty banks each, arranged alphabetically. The notes will be assorted first, among the fifty sections; and, second, the notes of each section will be assorted among the banks in the forty sections. The notes fit for circulation, it is found, constitute a very small fraction of the total received thus far—about one-tenth. These notes, after assortment, will be returned to the banks which issued them. Those unfit for circulation will be forwarded to the Comptroller of the Currency, who will furnish new notes, for which banks are required to make good the amount charged to the five per cent. fund for the redemption of their notes.

The redemption of national bank notes is now as free as legal tenders, except that they must be sent in larger sums. The superintendent states that, under the five per cent. fund of the new bill, the daily receipts are about $800,000.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day. Furnished by the St. Clair Banking Company, No. 16 Sixth street:

July 13, 1874.	10:30 A. M.	11:30 A. M.	12:30 P. M.	1:30 P. M.	2:30 P. M.
Gold	109½	109¼	109⅝	109⅝	109½
U. S. 6's, 1881	117½				117½
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup	117½				117½
5-20's, 1865	113½				113½
5-20's, 1864	113½				113½
5-20's, 1865, new	116½				116½
5-20's, 1867	116½				116½
5-20's, 1868	116½				116½
10-40's, coupons	112½				112½
Currency 6's	121½				121½
Registered, 1907	110½				110½
Western Union Tel.	72½	72⅝	72⅝	72⅝	72⅝
Pacific Mail	43	43¼	43	43	43
Wells-Fargo Express	106				106
Wells-Farg Express					74
American Express					60
United States Express					70
New York Central					99
Erie	34¼	34½	32	31¾	32¼
Erie preferred					57½
Michigan Southern	71⅞	71⅞	72	71	72¼
Illinois Central					97½
Cleve. and Pitts.					87½
Chicago & North'w'n	33½	33¾	33¾	33½	33⅝
Chicago & North'w'n pref.					69½
Rock Island	96				97
St. Paul, common	34½		34		34
St. Paul, preferred	69		69		69
Fort Wayne	92		94		94
Chicago, Milwaukee	23¾	24	24¼	24¼	24¼
Union Pacific	25¾	25¾	25¾	25	25¾
Chicago and Alton	102		102		102
Harlem	126		125		125
Hannibal & St. Jos.					24½
Ohio & I. C.	16¾	17	16¾	16¾	17
Tennessee, old					79
Tennessee, new					79

The following is a report of the leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board at noon to-day. Furnished by Luther S. Kauffman, broker, 96 Fourth avenue:

	Bid.	Asked.
Pennsylvania Central	48½	
Pennsylvania scrip	101	102
Reading	35¾	
United Companies of New Jersey	123½	124
Oil Creek	40	
Lehigh valley	66¾	
Allegheny Valley Railroad 7.3/10's	93	
Central Transportation Company	43½	43¾
Empire Transportation Company	53	
Mahantango	68	69
Gold		9¾

—Hazard & Montague, brokers in stock and gold privileges, 6 Broad street New York. Straddles, or double privileges, on 100 shares stock at market price on signing of contract, 30 days, $300@400; 60 [days, $400@500. Puts or calls, $150 for 100 shares 30 days; $150 to $200, 60 days, at following distance from the market, all on members New York Stock Exchange, or responsible parties:

	Puts. Below Market.	Calls. Above Market.
June 15, 1874	½@¾	½@¾
Gold, 30 days for $50	½@¾	½@¾
Gold, 60 days for $100	¾@1	at mkt
Western U. Telegraph	1¼@2¼	2 @2¼
Pacific Mail	2 @2½	2 @2½
New York Central & Hudson	2 @2½	2 @2½
Harlem	2½@3	2 @2½
Erie	2½@3	2 @2½
Erie preferred	2½@3	2½@3
Northwestern	2 @2½	2½@3
Rock Island	2 @2½	2½@3
St. Paul	1¾@2	2 @2½
Wabash	1¾@2½	2½@3
Mich. & Mississippi	1¾@2	2 @2½
Union Pacific	1 @1½	2 @2½
Hannibal & St. Joseph	2 @2½	2½@3
C. C. & I. C.	1¾@2	2½@3

Our commission buying puts or calls every 100 shares.....$6 @5

Our commission buying straddles—every 100 shares.....12 50

WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

July 8.—Trade has been disturbed somewhat by the advent of the National Holiday, as manufacturers have absented themselves from the market to some extent, and dealers have avoided speculation. Prices for all kinds, with perhaps one exception, may be called steady. The increased receipts of fleece has caused a weakness among the holders of spring California, and prices for that class have declined a trifle.

Australian—Has been quiet, and no sales are reported.

Cape—The only sale is 10 ables at a private price.

Carpet Stock—The demand continues fair, but stocks generally are light; 6,000 lbs Dunskoi at 32c.

Pulled—Is wanted, but as the season for pulling ends very little is coming into market. The sales are 30 bales coarse at 45@45c; 50 do super at 50c, and 4,000 lbs do at a private price.

Texas—The receipts of this discription continue quite liberal, but the demand during the past few days has been light. The sales comprise 10,000 lbs Western at 21c, and 3,000 lbs scoured Eastern at 70@72c.

California—Has met with a moderate demand but at lower prices. Fleeces, which have been arriving quite freely of late, have to a great extent drawn the attention of both manufacturers and dealers from the new spring, and centered it upon the productions of Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. The sales embrace 17 bales lambs at 17c; 12 do pulled 40c; 27 do spring 30@33c; and 10,000 lbs do on private terms.

Fleeces—Have been quite active, with sales of 20,000 lbs X and above Ohio at 42@43c; 5,000 lbs delaine washed, Michigan, at 44c; 40,000 lbs washed, 9,000 lbs fine unwashed, and 10,000 lbs scoured at a reserved price.

Pulled—We notice a sale of 5,000 lbs fine domestic at a price not transpired.

IMPORT OF WOOL INTO NEW YORK, FROM JANUARY 1 TO JUNE 29, 1874.

	Bales.
From Foreign Ports	26,151
From Coastwise Ports	15,320
Total	41,470
Same time 1873	39,691

—Shipping List.

PHILADELPHIA.

June 11.—There is a fair business doing and prices are steady. Sales include: Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia—XX and above, 45@45½; X, 42@43c; medium, 42@43c; coarse, 40c. New York Michigan, Indiana and Western—Fine, 45@46c; medium, 50@52c; coarse, 45c; combing, washed, 60c; combing unwashed, 40c; Canada combing, 60c; fine unwashed, 35c; coarse and medium, 32@36c; tub-washed, 50@55c. Colorado, unwashed, 25@26c. Colorado, washed, 40@45c. No. 1 pulled, 40@45c. No. 2 pulled, 40c. Texas, fine unwashed, 22@23c; fine, coarse, 18@21c; coarse, 17c; medium, 20@22c; fine medium, 24@25c. California, unwashed, 17@18c. California, spring, 30@33c.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } WEDNESDAY, July 15, 1874. }

The trade movement throughout wholesale circles is moderately active for this season, and the general aspect of business affairs here is greatly improved, in comparison with the state of affairs two weeks ago. Nearly all our merchants are now doing a fair trade, and their business appears to show a daily increase.

The Chicago *Tribune* says that the rains of last week produced a decided change in the prospective yield of the corn crop as well as of oats and potatoes, all of which have been suffering, or have been imperiled by the long drought. In the central part of Illinois, the peculiar corn-planting district, the drought had been unprecedented, and the rains were welcomed universally by the people who had feared a loss of their harvest. The rain extended over all the corn growing districts of Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Iowa, but did not extend to Kansas. It is possible that that region was since visited by the welcome showers. The rain has had the effect of overturning the speculators, who were buying corn for future delivery, upon the assumption that the drought would continue, and the crop be light or a failure. No orders have been received on that account since the storm of Tuesday night. It may now be considered that the corn has been saved, and that the early anticipations of a large crop will be realized.

The changes in prices to-day were quite numerous, compared with the steadiness which has pervaded values in this market for some time past. In grain, oats have advanced and corn declined. We note advances on hams, dried beef, mess pork and lard. Potatoes are in good supply and lower. Hay is scarce and has advanced in price. We also note below a number of changes of minor importance.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce, since our last.

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls	3,063	9,489	13,443
Apples, bbls	65	62	63
Cheese, lbs	1,022	920	1,942
Corn, sks	1,710	2,040	3,750
Wheat, sks	1,811	2,550	4,361
Barley, sks	122		122
Rye, sks	598	383	981
Oats, sks	11,586	4,310	15,896
Butter, pkgs	100	180	280
Bacon, pcs	7,747		7,747
Bacon, lbs	354	522	876
Hams, lbs	33,000	36,000	69,000
Lard, lbs	34,000	34,000	68,000
Potatoes, bus	952		952
Hay, tons	214	214	214
Hides, lbs	25,000	25,000	25,000
Tobacco, lbs	10,000	10,000	20,000
Harlem	126	125	125
Hannibal & St. Jos.			24½
Ohio & I. C.	16¾	17	16¾
Tennessee, old			79
Tennessee, new			79

FISH.

Trout, lb	12½	@15 c
Salmon, lb	15	@18 c
Fresh mackerel, lb	12½	@15 c
Shad, each	50	@75 c
Salmon, lb	15	@18 c
Herring, lb	8	c
Bass, lb	12	c
Catfish, lb	12	c

POULTRY.

Spring chickens, ₱ pair	50	@75 c
Old chickens	75	@1 00 c
Dressed chickens	75	@1 00

FRUITS AND BERRIES.

Apples, ₱ half peck	50	@75 c
Lemons, ₱ doz	30	@75 c
Oranges, ₱ doz	30	@50 c
Raspberries, ₱ quart	15	@20 c
Pineapples, apiece	25	@50 c
Cherries, ₱ quart	15	@20 c
Strawberries, ₱ quart	15	@20 c
Currants, ₱ quart	12½	c

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes, new, ₱ half peck	25	@30 c
New onions, ₱ doz	40	@50 c
Bermuda onions, ₱ half peck	50	c
Shallots, ₱ doz	60	@75 c
Cabbages, ₱ head	10	@12½ c
Rhubarb, ₱ doz	30	c
Green beans, ₱ half peck	20	@25 c
Lettuce, ₱ doz	25	@40 c
Cucumbers, ₱ doz	40	@50 c
Tomatoes, ₱ peck	40	@50 c
Asparagus, ₱ doz	12	@40 c
Beets, ₱ doz	15	c
String beans, ₱ ½ peck	25	@30 c
Watermelons	25	@1 00
Cherries	3	@5 c
Squashes	10	c
Green Corn, ₱ doz	10	@50 c

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Butter, choice yellow	30	@35 c
Butter, choice, ₱ roll	25	@25 c
Cheese, ₱ lb	17	@18 c
Milk, ₱ gall		c
Eggs, ₱ doz		c

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, July 16, 1874. }

REMARKS.—The market for crude exhibits a slight improvement to-day, prices having advanced 2¼@25c since the previous day. The market for refined is dull, and weak in sympathy with the Eastern markets, which have fallen off about ½@¾c since our last report.

CRUDE.

We quote crude at 7¾@7¾c for United at wells; 7¾@7¾c for Union, de; immediate shipment 8c; Union and United at river are quoted at 8¼ @8½c. The receipts were light, and prices rated, only one sale of 2,000 bbls United being reported.

SMITH'S FERRY OIL.

Sales at Cleveland and Pittsburgh Railroad station 81 60 per barrel; at wells 60c. Market slightly firmer.

REFINED.

The refined market is unchanged, but rather weak in the sympathy with eastern markets. We quote at 16¾@16¾c for carbon oil in carlots at works.

NAPHTHA.—The market is quiet and lower; refined is quoted at 12 1-16@12¼c spot.

Philadelphia.—Spot 12c; August delivery 2¼c.

OIL BARRELS

are quiet; city $1 50@1 55; country $1 40.

TURPENTINE, July 15.—The *Herald* says: The market has been unchanged. On the spot, however, the market was at $1 02@$1 05. At Parkers' quotations were nominally 97½c@$1 00 at the close, while, for United, immediate shipment 92½@95c. Sales:

1,500 bbls upper road, spot.....$1 00
300 bbls Parkers, spot.....97½
2,000 bbls Parkers, United at wells.....70

NEW YORK, July 15, closing 14.—The market is quiet and low; sales of 7,000 barrels crude in bulk at 47c, do shipping 50@58c; refined—sales of 3,000 barrels for July at 12 1-16c; 6,300 to arrive in August at 12½c; cases 19½@20½c; naphtha 7½c. Philadelphia delivery in moderate demand, sales of 3,000 barrels refined for July at 12c.

TIFFIN, July 15.—The market is dull at 75c for 41 deg. wells.

RUSSELVILLE, July 15.—There is nothing doing; crude is held at 90@95c.

OIL CITY, July 15.—The market is quiet at $1 07½@1 10.

TITUSVILLE, July 15.—The market is quiet and unchanged, being nominally at $1 00.

PARKERS, July 15.—United 72½@75c at wells; Union 75@77½c at wells.

PHILADELPHIA, July 15.—The market is quiet; S. W. 12c crude 43½c; cases 16c; sales none; futures, August 12¾c.

PITTSBURGH RETAIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, July 16, 1874. }

The retail markets have been very active during the past week, in the line of fresh fruits and vegetables. The supply of these articles is much increased, and prices are lower. In meat, fish and poultry, trade has been rather dull. The supply of butter and eggs is light, and prices have advanced. The following were the ruling prices in the market this morning:

MEATS.

Beef, sirloin steak, ₱ lb	20	@25 c
Beef, round steak, ₱ lb	15	c
Beef, rib roast	18	@20 c
Fresh mutton, ₱ lb	10	@15 c
Mutton chops, ₱ lb	15	@20 c
Spring lamb, ₱ lb	15	@20 c
Fresh veal, ₱ lb	10	@12½ c
Fresh pork, ₱ lb	10	@12½ c
Corned beef, ₱ lb	10	@12½ c
Ham, ₱ lb	15	c
Sugar cured shoulders, ₱ lb	12	c
Pickled pork, ₱ lb	8	c
Dried beef, ₱ lb	20	c
Breakfast bacon, ₱ lb	14	@16 c
Sausage meat, ₱ lb	12	@12½ c
Lard, ₱ lb	15	c

FISH.

Trout, ₱ lb	12½	@15 c
Salmon, ₱ lb	15	@18 c
Fresh mackerel, ₱ lb	12½	@15 c
Shad, each	50	@75 c
Salmon, lb	15	@18 c
Herring, ₱ lb	8	c
Bass, ₱ lb	12	c
Catfish, ₱ lb	12	c

POULTRY.

Spring chickens, ₱ pair	50	@75 c
Old chickens	75	@1 00 c
Dressed chickens	75	@1 00

FRUITS AND BERRIES.

Apples, ₱ half peck	50	@75 c
Lemons, ₱ doz	30	@75 c
Oranges, ₱ doz	30	@50 c
Raspberries, ₱ quart	15	@20 c
Pineapples, apiece	25	@50 c
Cherries, ₱ quart	15	@20 c
Strawberries, ₱ quart	15	@20 c
Currants, ₱ quart	12½	c

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes, new, ₱ half peck	25	@30 c
New onions, ₱ doz	40	@50 c
Bermuda onions, ₱ half peck	50	c
Shallots, ₱ doz	60	@75 c
Cabbages, ₱ head	10	@12½ c
Rhubarb, ₱ doz	30	c
Green beans, ₱ half peck	20	@25 c
Lettuce, ₱ doz	25	@40 c
Cucumbers, ₱ doz	40	@50 c
Tomatoes, ₱ peck	40	@50 c
Asparagus, ₱ doz	12	@40 c
Beets, ₱ doz	15	c
String beans, ₱ ½ peck	25	@30 c
Watermelons	25	@1 00
Cherries	3	@5 c
Squashes	10	c
Green Corn, ₱ doz	10	@50 c

DAIRY PRODUCE.

Butter, choice yellow	30	@35 c
Butter, choice, ₱ roll	25	@25 c
Cheese, ₱ lb	17	@18 c
Milk, ₱ gall		c
Eggs, ₱ doz		c

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET —WEEKLY REVIEW.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } THURSDAY, July 16, 1874. }

The live stock market this week has been fairly active, and sellers of cattle and hogs express themselves as being well satisfied with the prices obtained. The market for sheep was less satisfactory to owners. The following table shows the number of cars of live stock received during the past week:

Receipts of Stock.

	Cattle.	Hogs.	Sheep.
Thursday	750	2,400	1,500
Friday	1,700	3,950	1,900
Saturday	800	4,375	1,500
Sunday	763	6,500	2,000
Monday	442	2,187	600
Tuesday	2,550	2,450	1,000
Wednesday	850	1,750	1,200
Total	7,482	23,662	11,900
Last week	6,248	22,670	9,600

CATTLE.

The run of cattle was not quite as heavy during the past week, as that of the previous one. The quality of the offerings was fair, comprising more prime native beeves than heretofore, although there is still a large proportion of half-fatted grassers, and stockers on sale. The market was moderately active, and opened on Tuesday at an advance of 12½@25c per cwt, on last weeks price's. It was the general expectation that the favorable advices from the East would send prices up more decidedly. But these expectations were not fully realized, as the views of the buyers for the New York and Philadelphia markets, were decidedly for cheaper cattle. On Wednesday under the influence of the free receipts of the preceding day, prices became somewhat easier, and fell back about to the general point, although some parties were of the opinion that the commoner grades brought better prices than they did last week. There were a good many common Texans intended for this market, most of which were reshipped in first hands. We quote prices as follows:

Extra 1,400 to 1,500 ₱s native steers.....$6 25@6 40
Good 1,200 to 1,300 ₱s native steers.....5 75@6 00
Good 1,000 to 1,100 ₱s native steers.....5 00@5 50
Light grassers, as to quality.....3 50@5 00
Texans and herefords.....3 25@3 75
Bulls, as to quality.....3 50@4 50

Swine.

The run of hogs was a little below that of the previous week, and the market displayed a very buoyant character, and a marked upward tendency. On Monday and Tuesday the market was about 25c ₱ cwt. higher than last week, and on Wednesday prices became still firmer, and went higher, until they reached the highest point that hogs have sold at for more than a year. There was a large inquiry by Eastern buyers, which proved greater than could be supplied, and unless the receipts increase proportionately, during the latter part of the week, it would not be surprising if a still further advance should take place. The market closed firm at the following quotations:

Extra Philadelphias.....$7 00
Prime Philadelphias.....6 90@7 00
Baltimores.....6 50@6 75
Yorkers.....6 50@6 75
Common.....5 75@6 00

Sheep.

The arrival of sheep having been unusually heavy at most points, as might have been expected, in an over-stocked market, and a weakening of prices. The common grades were in heavier supply than the higher ones, and the decline on the former was more marked, reaching about 50c ₱ cwt. The market on Wednesday was the most unsatisfactory to sellers, as the over supply was greater then than on any preceding day. We should not be surprised if, before the close of the week, a large number of the sheep now on sale here should go East in first hands. The market closed weak as follows:

Extra.....$5 25@5 50
Good, ₱s 90 ₱ lbs.....4 50@5 00
Fair, 75 to 80 ₱s.....3 75@4 00
Common, 70 to 75 ₱s.....3 00@3 50
Bucks (₱ head).....2 00@4 00
Lambs (₱ head).....1 00@3 00

Live Stock Weighed.

The following is a statement of the number of head of live stock weighed at the scales during the week, which affords a fair criteria of the amount of business can be gained, and compared with that of the previous week:

CATTLE.

	Last week.	This week.
Wednesday	1,009	929
Thursday	1,041	712
Friday	127	
Saturday	980	1,359
Monday	120	
Tuesday	1,030	1,030
Wednesday	1,408	1,446
Total	4,295	4,435

HOGS.

Wednesday	398	200
Thursday	1,244	829
Friday	1,379	709
Saturday	456	602
Monday	412	2,265
Tuesday	1,431	1,704
Wednesday	1,563	1,671
Total	6,883	7,840

SHEEP.

Wednesday	2,294	226
Thursday	1,067	1,512
Friday	291	1,122
Saturday		
Monday	115	1,871
Tuesday	2,225	9,140
Wednesday	5,954	3,062
Total	11,846	17,133

Sales of Live Stock.

We present below a number of sales made by the leading dealers, from which a correct and reliable idea of the ruling prices of the market may be gained:

Cattle.

HEDGES, HUFF & CO. SOLD.

No.	Weight.	Price.	No.	Weight.	Price.
52	46,400	$6 50	5	21,220	$5 90
17	11,320	5 40	5	4,880	3 50
10	7,140	3 65	5	5,020	3 50
12	1,960	6 00	20	19,440	5 40
19	20,540	5 50	18	19,150	5 75
19	20,470	5 60	22	22,200	5 75
22	21,500	5 12			

HOLMES, LAFFERTY & CO. SOLD.

51	50,500	6 25	115	111,100	5 62
33	33,200	6 00	26	17,980	4 65
33	18,580	4 80	34	41,330	6 30
19	18,750	5 60	22	21,500	5 12
17	19,920	5 65	19	19,110	5 35
21	21,430	5 55	20	20,000	5 50
36	38,510	5 90	15	16,250	6 00
19	18,330	4 50	21	19,850	4 50
18	18,250	4 90	21	20,000	4 50
20	21,500	5 65	20	20,650	4 50
18	16,640	5 90	20	20,200	4 50
19	21,640	4 75	19	18,000	4 50

SADLER, HAVENS & CO. SOLD.

20	20,060	$6 50	14	14,880	$5 50
25	25,100	6 75	19	20,100	6 02
5	5,170	5 40	6	6,000	5 20
10	10,000	6 00	5	5,155	5 00
17	7,000	4 40	5	3,700	3 10
13	13,570	5 00	8	10,400	6 40
4	4,440	5 00	8	10,000	6 00
2	1,750	2 00	18	14,750	4 00
18	18,780	5 50	4	bulls	2 50
18	22,070	5 50	2	bulls	1,210
19	18,750	4 00	4		3,890
18	18,370	4 90	17		20,430
35	41,300	5 85			

WATSON, BRIGGS & CO. SOLD.

16	20,080	$6 00	41	47,340	$5 65
17	14,650	4 00	18	Texans	3 50
12	18,910	4 70	40	Texans	3 75
18	18,150	5 50			

HAMILTON & LOUGHRY SOLD

16	21,020	$6 30	15	21,480	$6 37
25	28,000	6 75	20	23,000	6 12
18	20,660	5 50	17	21,090	5 90

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JULY 18, 1874.

THE exports of Baltimore last week amounted to $1,037,417, indicating an exceptionally large and prosperous trade for this season of the year.

WE ARE gradually getting the balance of trade on the right side. Whilst our exports are steadily increasing, the imports are diminishing. Those at the port of New York thus far during the present year are over $2,000,000 less than in 1873, and more than $14,500,000 less than in 1872.

THE imports, exclusive of specie, at the port of New York for the week ending last Saturday, amounted to $7,814,988, against $9,432,296 for the corresponding week last year. The total imports since the first of January foot up $224,076,059, against $226,643,911 for the corresponding period of 1873.

IT TURNS out that the bill to relieve savings banks from tax upon their undistributed surplus earnings, about the signing of which by the President there was some doubt, has been discovered duly signed, and is now enrolled. There is much satisfaction among the managers of these institutions, in consequence.

THE New York *Express* frankly acknowledges that the Democratic party deserved punishment for abuse of power and love of office and money. Quite true. Has that party since cleaned out its stables, scrubbed out its house, and set its premises in decent order, generally? If so, when, where, and who bossed the job?

The total exports of produce from New York for the week ending last Wednesday, amounted to $7,387,186, an increase over the previous week of $195,542. The exports for the corresponding week of last year were $4,964,510. The total exports of produce since the first of January, this year, are $152,367,863, against $145,174,111 last year.

A LEADING legal journal thinks the effects of the new Bankruptcy law will be to put the collecting machinery of the State courts again in motion, and to distribute the collecting business of the United States, which has been centralized in the large cities where Federal courts were held, and send it to the county seats of the various States—a result by no means to be deprecated or deplored.

OUT in Illinois the "Independent" movement of which such extraordinary things were predicted, has fallen still-born, and the issue will be, as of old, between the Republican and Democratic parties. Everywhere, indeed, the Democracy and the "Whig-conservatives" are in a bad way; not having even the consolation of the two topers who had imbibed too much tanglefoot, that as long as they leaned against each other they could manage to keep their footing.

SOME of the more sagacious dealers in coin, and many of those who are studying the effects of the new currency law, are said to be free in the expression of the opinion that the new measure, supported by Secretary BRISTOW, and the currency act will, together, bring down the premium on gold for the remainder of the season, upon the ground that the relation of the loan to the foreign exchange is as certain as the relation of exchange to the trade demand for gold.

THE Philadelphia *Ledger* learns, by a letter from one of the largest iron-workers in the country, that more orders had been received for iron within the last ten days than in all the six weeks previously. Similar revivals are heard of in various directions, and from these manifestations marked encouragement is taken of an early revival and an active fall business, especially in iron, and if in iron necessarily in coal, and if in both coal and iron, then, as a consequence, in transportation, for which the railway companies are anxiously waiting. It is the hour for courage.

IN THE case of the murderer UDDERZOOK'S appeal on the writ of error to the Supreme Court of the State, the principal grounds of application were that the Court below erred in permitting photographs to be introduced in evidence, for the purpose of establishing the identity of individuals, and in allowing important papers, letters and documents, used in evidence on the trial, to be taken from the jury after they had retired to consider their verdict. The Supreme Court unanimously affirmed the legality of both of these procedures, thereby establishing an important precedent for the guidance of jurists in future criminal trials.

THE principal business houses of New York are quite cheerful over the prospects of trade. The head of a large commission house, who has had an experience of twenty years in the produce business, affirms that he never knew things to look more healthy and promising than at present. The only discouraging reports from any quarter are concerning the grasshoppers, and it is believed that the reports of their devastations have been considerably exaggerated. As regards transportation, farmers have never been able to send their products to market, both by land and water, so cheaply as at present.

THE total iron shipments in gross tons, from the Lake Superior district for the present season up to June 25, amounted to 262,908 tons of ore, and 18,828 tons of pig iron. The Marquette *Journal* thinks that the total ore product of the mines of that district for the whole season of 1874 is pretty certain to be forty per cent. less than that of 1873. This statement is based on the fact that all the producing companies have curtailed operations fully to that extent, and during the winter months some of the companies suspended operations entirely, while others reduced production to even a larger per cent. than that mentioned.

THE New York *Tribune* publishes the results of an extended survey of the business field, as regards the experience of the dry goods trade, which suggests a very promising rift in the clouds about which so much has been said during the past six or nine months. The main feature, however, of that paper's observation is that "the greatest success has followed in the train of judicious and liberal investments in advertising. Almost without exception the merchants who most persistently invite the public into their stores are the ones for whom panics have no terror and to whom depression is an idle word"—a fact which is just as true of other cities as of New York.

THE last number of the *Shoe and Leather Reporter* gives some interesting statistics concerning the exports of hides and leather from the United States during the past six months; from which it appears that the total value of the hides exported from the ports of Philadelphia, New York and Boston amounted to $1,213,764, which, at the low average of five dollars per hide, would give 242,755 hides exported from the United States during the past six months. The majority of these were domestic hides, very few dry hides being sent abroad. The total value of the shipments of leather for the same period amounted to $2,168,674. This is a gratifying showing to those interested in the success of American leather abroad.

NEW YORK papers publish the June statement of the earnings of seventeen of the principal railroads of the country, whose securities are on call at the Stock Exchange. The returns show a falling off of $587,260 from those of the same month last year; but this decrease has not been in excess of the probable reduction in operating expenses, so that though the gross earnings are less, the net receipts are, in nearly all cases, up to those of last year. For the first half of the present year the gross earnings of fifteen roads whose statements have been received, amount to $40,567,815, against $29,364,742 for the corresponding period of last year, showing an increase of $1,203,073, which, all things considered, is by no means a discouraging exhibit.

THERE are indications that railway development has about culminated, alike in this country and Europe, and that a remarkable era in the history of civilization and human progress is on the wane. Railways almost everywhere have been built beyond the ability of the country to support them. It is acknowledged that many of the greatest roads of the United States do not pay anything on the stock, showing that eventually it must become a dead loss and be wiped out. It might be supposed that this is applicable only to roads in sparsely-populated countries, but the case appears to be the same in the densely-populated countries of the Old World as well. It begins to look as though the surplus capital of the world would presently be compelled to seek out some other avenue of investment.

THE POWERS OF CORPORATIONS.

The decision of the United States Circuit Court of Wisconsin, in the railroad case, has probably been given more immediate importance than it deserves. It is conclusive as to Wisconsin, but it does not settle any great principle applicable alike to all the States. The case turned upon the construction of a provision in the Constitution of Wisconsin, giving to the Legislature of that State the power to alter, amend or repeal the charters of corporations granted under either general or special laws. The United States Circuit Court has simply decided that, the Legislature of Wisconsin having, both in its general and special legislation relative to the granting of charters, reserved to itself the right at any time to exercise this Constitutional power, the railroad charters that have been taken out under that legislation, have been taken with a full knowledge by the parties organizing under them that they were subject to legislative control and regulation. The new Wisconsin railroad law is held to be a legitimate exercise of this reserved power, and the courts have no power to restrain the use of authority constitutionally given.

The provision here referred to, in the Constitution of Wisconsin, was copied from the Constitution of New York, and a similar provision is found in the Constitution of Michigan. The other Western States, it is believed, have no such sweeping clause in their Constitutions, although most of them have a partial reserving clause, and hence the decision of the United States Circuit Court of Wisconsin applies immediately only to cases arising under a peculiar and special state of facts.

There is, however, one general principle settled by the decision, which will prove of great importance in the settlement of this railroad controversy if the Supreme Court should sustain it, and that is, the power of the people to limit, regulate and control the privileges of corporations by reserving the right to do so in their State Constitutions. This puts corporations of all kinds exclusively under popular control; and if existing State Constitutions do not come up to the mark of that of Wisconsin, in this respect, they can each be amended, if that is thought desirable by the people who are interested in the questions at issue.

The pet theory of a certain class of legalists has been that railroads are private corporations, once formed, acquire formidable powers which cannot thereafter be meddled with. Under this theory, a corporation is something sacred, which must not be touched. The Wisconsin decision would seem to scatter this theory to the winds. A corporation, according to it, has just such powers as the laws give it, and no more, and if the law-making power has reserved the right to alter, amend or repeal, it is subject to whichever change the law-making power may see fit to make, within constitutional limits.

If this principle is recognized and established, the corporations had better come, at once, to an understanding with the people, instead of fighting with them. We were convinced, from the first, in this railroad quarrel, that that would have been the best course, without regard to the legal questions involved. The railroads thought otherwise, and now, after years of expensive litigation, will have to begin where they should have begun at first.

THE refusal of the Wisconsin United States Circuit Court to grant the injunction asked for by the bondholders of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company, restraining the authorities of the State from attempting to enforce the law providing for the regulation of fares and freights, is already exerting a depressing effect on Western railroad securities. One enterprise has already been abandoned on account of it. The Wells and Mankato Railroad in Minnesota was intended to open a new lumber route to the Mississippi, and it would also have made the coal fields of Iowa accessible to the prairie region in the southwest portion of Minnesota. Forty miles of the roadway had been graded, most of the ties were on the ground, and a number of bridges had been built, involving an expenditure of over $400,000. Only $350,000 more was required to complete the work; but at a recent secret meeting of the New York capitalists interested, it was determined to abandon the enterprise, owing to the fact that it would be a competing road under the law, and that if not allowed to establish its own rates it could not do general business and hold its own with longer routes. The stockholders concluded that it would be wiser to submit to the loss of the money already invested than to put more with it and run imminent risk of losing that, too. A final decision from the Supreme Court of the United States regarding the rights and powers of States as respects this important question, is what is now wanted, and the sooner it can be reached, the better.

ONE of the most encouraging evidences of Mexican progress is the deep interest which is being aroused in that country in the establishment of new manufactories. The government has just established a manufactory of arms, and hereafter the army will be supplied with Remington rifles of home manufacture. Private enterprise, also, is, being actively enlisted, and machine shops, furniture factories, and other industrial establishments, are being opened and operated at numerous points in the Republic. Commerce, too, is reviving, and all departments of business exhibit indications of healthy development and progress.

THE indications are that the wool clip, which is now pretty fully gathered, will not present any falling off from last year's yield, and the farmers are reported as being generally satisfied alike with the produce and price. A considerable proportion of the new clip is passing direct into the hands of manufacturers; the bulk of it, however, will probably take the usual course of the commission houses, which, owing to the easy condition of the money market, are now enabled to make liberal cash remittances on consignments.

ACCORDING to the report of the Agricultural Department for the month of June, the increase in land under wheat has, since the season of 1870-71, been equal to one hundred and seven per cent. for the whole country. It would appear, therefore, that we are increasing our wheat production not only out of all proportion to our increase in population, but also beyond that of consuming countries, and are consequently running somewhat ahead of the market.

IT IS a notable fact that every organ of the "no party" party out West admits that it has no purposes in view, and that its chief solicitude is for the spoils. Could a more striking example of the political dissoluteness of professional "reformers" be furnished?

A Railway Reaction in England.

In a long article on railway matters the London *Saturday Review* makes these significant admissions:

The rapid decline in the value of railway stocks which commenced five or six months ago continues with accelerated speed. The traffic receipts first ceased to show the customary percentage of increase; in the course of the spring they became stationary; and of late they have fallen short of last year's returns. The inevitable result of the diminishing activity of trade had been foreseen, but it had not been ascertained that the fall in the price of coal and iron would in some degree compensate for the reduction of receipts. There is now little doubt that the dividends for the first half of 1874 will be generally unsatisfactory. The majorities of the companies have been bound by contracts made during the prevalence of high prices; so that some time must elapse before they can profit by recent changes. The advanced wages of railway servents, and the increase in their numbers required by reduced hours of working, form a permanent addition to working expenses. Nearly all the great companies are at present burdened by a heavy charge of interest on unproductive capital. Many hundred miles of authorized lines are now in process of construction; and the cost of labor and materials has in almost all cases greatly advanced since the estimates were framed."

Mammoth Cannon.

The "Woolwich Infant," weighing more than thirty-five tons was a great wonder at the time of its construction, but it is to be altogether eclipsed by the four guns made for the proposed British iron-clad "Inflexible." Each of these is to weigh eighty-one tons, total length to be 27 feet, length of bore 24 feet, and calibre 14 to 16 inches, as may be preferred. The projectile will range between 1,000 and 1,200 pounds in weight, and the quantity of powder contained in the cartridge will be one-sixth of the weight of the projectile. An immense but unknown amount of money is to be expended in the construction of these guns. The ordinary expenditures of the Woolwich gun factories amount to $7,500,000 a year.

FINESSE.

A year ago her cool and delicate hands
Flushed hot within his passionate parting clutch,
And when her white brows leaned unto the touch
Of his sobbed kiss, they glowed as glow the sands
Of tropic shores in summer. Then she spoke—
"God keep you"—but a sudden shivering waft,
That made his purple-thrilling blood pause pale,
Splintered the rest in pieces with one stroke.
It was well feigned! The subtle, exquisite sigh,
The mute entreating of her hueless lips,
The tremor crawling to her finger-tips,
And deep, funereal splendor of the eye:—
Ah, but her fine skill smote him like a cry
From those who perish amid foundering ships.

RICHARD REALF.

STATE NEWS.

Ashton, Carbon county, has small pox.

Some of the Lebanon cherries have two stones.

Grapes are growing finely in Erie and vicinity.

The Allentown *Chronicle* reports iron shipments brisk at that place.

Brick-laying has commenced on the new lunatic asylum in Warren county.

The Second Presbyterian church of Scranton is looking for a $5,000 minister.

They want the gas company at Meadville to reduce the price to $3 00 per thousand.

Wm. G. Taylor, of Towanda. Suicided, Aged 40. Wife and one child and Sunday last the time.

A young Japanese has arrived in Easton with a view to become a studeut in Lafayette College.

Capt. W. W. Nevin will hold the reins over the Philadelphia *Press*, during Forney's absence to Europe.

Rev. J. G. Carnahan, of Meadville, sails from New York on the 19th instant, on a short visit to his native Scotland.

The Scranton *Republican* states that all the fish in the Lackawanna river have been destroyed by the water from the mines along its banks.

A Lebanon county boy set fire to a hen's nest in a barn to kill some lice. He forgot to take the barn away and it fell a victim to his fertility of expedients.

A young man named Jordan fell from a cherry tree on Monday, at Tom Run, near Parker City, and sustained injuries from which he died the next morning.

Harrisburg women haunt the Sheriff's office, begging for bits of the rope with which the negroes were hung. It will bring good luck to the possessor, they say.

The *Venango Spectator* says: Among the shipments of lubricating oil from the Galena oil works last month were eight car loads for a railroad company in Germany.

The Bedford *Inquirer* says: The workmen on the Cessna tunnel, on the farm of Adam Wolford, in Londonderry township, struck an eighteen inch vein of first-class ore the other day.

A Lancaster four-year old, viewing the comet for the first time, and with vivid remembrance of the Fourth of July fireworks, wanted to know if it was "a rocket stuck fast in the sky."

The Tamaqua *Item* says smallpox is raging with considerable virulence at Ashland, Coal Dale, Summit Hill, Nesquehon. ing and that neighborhood, imported originally from Pottsville,

A company of Eastern capitalists are prospecting in Honesdale and vicinity for the purpose of erecting a large manufacture of pins. With Honesdale's glass-woollen, furniture carving, edge tool, ag, ricultural and iron works and boat yards, it is fast becoming a manufacturing centre.

The most astounding fun developed in any part of the country on the Fourth of July was that introduced by the young bloods of Easton, who exploded bombshells in the streets charged with nitro-glycerine.

Young Sweitzer, who shot and killed a man named Phillippi, in Somerset county, last week, has been arrested on the charge of murder, and is now in jail awaiting a judicial investigation of the alleged crime.

It is proposed at Norristown to raise a body of horsemen, two hundred strong, to be mounted on white horses, and dressed in full Continental uniforms, to participate in the Centennial parade in Fairmount Park in 1876.

Henry Cover, eighteen years of age, and two other young men of Middletown, purchased a quart of whisky on Saturday morning, and proceeded to a woods in the vicinity to enjoy the day. Cover drank so much that he was taken home a corpse.

An Elk county girl's letter to a rural clergyman: "I was eddicated in one of our leadin female seminaries, and have my certifikates and so feel it my duty to teach somewheres, and if you can assist me, please rite and let me no, and ile get redy at once."

Jesse Phillips who lives near Youngsville lost one of his feet last Tuesday by getting in front of a mowing machine. A young man living at the same place lost a leg by the same mower, and he will use it no more. Both boy living near Corry met with a similar accident last Monday.

The Chester *News* states with authority that Roach & Co. will in a very short time lay the keel for two more iron steamships for the Pacific Mail Company, and that another New York party have determined to give the building of a vessel, similar to the steamship George W. Elder, to the same firm.

The Mercer *Dispatch* says: There lives in Coolspring township, an old settler, ninety-five years of age, who never, to this date, has seen a train of cars. Living under the same roof with him are four generations—his seventh son, his daughter, grand-daughter and two great-grand-daughters.

The Reading *Times and Dispatch* of the 11th inst. says: A cow belonging to Mr. Peter Engle, of Rattlesnake Hill, Douglass township, was taken with frothing at the mouth on Thursday morning, and by her strange antics gave conclusive evidence of being attacked with hydrophobia. It to last evening the cow had not been killed, and was still as furious as at any time since the attack.

This is from the pen of Pete Conver, of the Tionesta *Press:* A woman walked into Tionesta from the other side of Tuckingville in Clarion county, a distance of seven miles, the hottest day this week, and carried twenty pounds of butter and a six months' old baby. Robinson bought the butter for twenty cents a pound, and the baby she carried back home. Her husband had ridden into town the day before to find out the state of the market.

A Reading workman gives publicity to these foolish views: "*We believe that the entire stagnation of trade is a war on labor!* We believe that the manufacturers by united organizations are determined to crush out the various Labor Unions of the State, destroy our unity and our strength, and in this manner humble us in the dust, and bring us down again to the level of slaves. They want to starve us out. They want to keep their mills closed on the plea of hard times."

From the Mauch Chunk *Gazette* it is learned that a company is being formed for the purpose of laying out a large park near Lehighton's dam, for hunting, to attract the thousands who visit Mauch Chunk every year. The dam would be used for fishing and sailing. Suitable buildings will be erected for the accommodation of visitors, and in the end a hotel will be built. A stock company will be formed and if the movement proves a success, the work will be begun next month.

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is one of the ablest weekly papers in Pennsylvania. It is an earnest straight-forward Republican journal. But it criticises with great freedom the acts of the Republican officials, and is an earnest advocate for most reform measures. It secratly called the meeting of Grant for a third term, and is among the advanced advocates of the best possible government. We commend the COMMERCIAL to all people who want a live newspaper.—*Meadville Journal.*

The Wilkesbarre correspondent of the Scranton *Republican* writes: The body of the man Blocksehmidt, who was buried in quicksand at a mine in Wanamie, in which a cave occurred a week ago last Monday, was found on Monday and buried yesterday. The body was dug through by the quicksand and pressed up against the roof of the mine, and there held in a perfect state of preservation, in which it was found. It appeared as though dissolution had but just taken place, so removed was every indication of decomposition.

The journeymen gold-beaters are still on strike in Philadelphia. Says the *Bulletin*: "If there is any branch of mechanics in which strikes may be justified, it is that of gold-beating. The gold-beaters have struck but once since 1829, and that was caught in the cause has, to a great extent, proved but "a flash in the pan." Unostentatious, steady, persevering and gentle work will always accomplish more than that savoring of bigotry and violence.

The Conneautville *Courier* says: The wife of Mr. A. H. Lawrence, of Summerhill, met with a singular and serious accident on Wednesday afternoon. In company with her husband and son, she was on her way home from the funeral of her father, Mr. Abram Walrath, in a crackey wagon, the boy sitting in behind leading a horse. The led horse became frightened at a dog running out at his heels, and jumping into the wagon with all four feet, clearing the boy but striking Mrs. Lawrence, throwing her out. The horse fell over on his side upon the forward wheels, crushing it down, and rolled to ground partially upon Mrs. Lawrence, who was unable to help herself. Dr. Hough was called, and found his patient with two ribs broken, and her back and limbs considerably bruised, but with no dangerous injuries. The horse was somewhat hurt by broken splinters from the wagon.

The *Gazette and Bulletin*, in its weekly review of the lumber business at Williamsport, says: The total amount shipped for the first six months of 1874 foots up 139,857,052 feet, an increase over the same period in 1873 of 15,388,763 feet. Of this amount the Catawissa Railroad has forwarded 60,146,140 feet, requiring the services of 6,296 cars; the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, 44,340,346 feet, requiring 4,659 cars, and the canal 34,301,552 feet, requiring the use of 382 boats. The shipments from Lock Haven for the same period reach the handsome total of 18,781,786 feet. As we are in the midst of the dull season the shipments will, in all probability, continue light for the next two months. Afterthat it is expected there will be an increase, and manufacturers look forward hopefully to a sufficient revival of business to warrant the movement of larger quantities of lumber than usual. Money, it is expected, will be more abundant, and retail dealers, who have allowed their stocks to run low, will be compelled to replenish for the fall and winter trade. The outlook is not discouraging.

Columbia, has fifteen churches.

The ladies of Schuylkill county indulge in foot races.

Emlenton is to have a $25,000 grist mill.

Brick has been burned with benzine in Oil City.

The new Catholic church at Jamestown, Mercer county, will be dedicated on the 2d of August.

Phisadelphia is now growing at the rate of between six and seven hundred buildings per month.

The State Camp of the Patriotic Order, Sons of America, meets in Lancaster on the 11th of August.

Margaret Howell, aged ten years, left Thomastown, Schuylkill county, last week, to join the angel band. She poured some kerosene into the stove just before she started.

The small-pox is raging in Ashton and other towns in the Panther Creek Valley, and in Nesquehoning, Carbon county. The disease has also made its appearance in Audenried and in that vicinity.

Titusville has got a young somnambulist, says the *Courier*, who was completely cured of the "disease" on Friday night last. He went into the room where the hired girl was sleeping, when she knocked him down with a chair! The moral is obvious.

A party of Reading artists went to West Falls, in Schuylkill county, to sketch the fine scenery, but were finally compelled to leave by the young hoodlums of that vicinity, who stole everything they had about their camp, even to the last box of cauldron.

At midnight on the 7th inst., a fire broke out in the vicinity of the Osceola Mills, in the lumber piles and mill of Mr. T. C. Heims, which destroyed about one million six hundred and eighty-four thousand feet of lumber, the total value of which was $17,000. Insured for $14,000.

Mr. Peter Roberts died at his residence in Greenville on the 7th instant, at the age of ninety-seven years. He was born in Cumberland, Maryland, removed to Westmoreland county in 1814, and thence to Mercer county in 1820. Here he engaged in teaming, and soon became well known from Pittsburgh to Meadville. He served in the ranks during the war of 1812, and late in life was granted a pension by the government.

Harry Watson, a brisk, energetic young man, formerly connected with the press of this city, has changed the name and shape of his paper, the Greenville *Argus*—the first to *Sheuango Valley Argus*, the latter to quarto. Harry seems to make a success of local paper and always does it. He is a fair and square Republican, and, as a matter of course, his paper runs in the proper political groove. His success is great, and as greatly deserved.

We are pleased to see that the PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, certainly one of the best dailies in this State or in the Union, is the ardent and consistent friend of Philadelphia. Many of its cotemporaries in the interior as well as at the points of their location would save their good sense and State pride by upholding, upon all proper occasions, their grand metropolis, instead of totally neglecting this duty and bestowing their favors upon New York, with which they can have no affinity.—*Germantown Telegraph.*

The Lancaster *Express* tells this cigar story: The Hon. A. Herr Smith, for John Stauffer, Esq., of Lancaster county, Pa., presented to the President of the United States, a cigar, the history of which is as follows: In 1802, Dr. Andrew Kauffman, of Lancaster county, bought a few cigars in Lancaster, and a short time before his death gave the last one he had to Mr. John Stauffer, Esq., of said county, with a request that he would give it to General Grant. This cigar is over seventy-two years old, and was destined for the hero of a hundred battles.

The commencement exercises of the Pennsylvania State College will begin on the 26th inst., and end on the 30th. President James Calder has favored the COMMERCIAL with the programme, which is as follows: Sunday, 3 P. M.—Baccalaureate Sermon by President Calder. Monday—Examination of classes; 7 P. M., class day exercises, class of 1874. Tuesday—Examination of classes; 1½ P. M., trial of mowers; 7½ P. M., sophomore exhibition. Wednesday—Examination concluded; 10 A. M., annual meeting of trustees; 2 P. M., meeting of delegates to elect trustees; 3½ P. M., trial of reapers; 7½ P. M., junior contest for the Kaine prize. Thursday—10 A. M., commencement; 2 P. M., annual meeting of alumni. The fall session will open on Friday, August, 28.

The monthly report of the Department of Agriculture for June is published. The aggregate increase of wheat is reported at 100 per cent. As compared with last year, New York's area is 100 per cent., Vermont's 95 and Massachusett's 89. The condition of wheat is better than the average of years, though in New York there is a depreciation of 10 per cent. In rye there is an average increase of 1 per cent. Vermont shows the increase of 2 per cent., while in New York there is a slight falling off. In oats the increase is 2 per cent. Vermont shows 5 per cent. increase, and New York 3 per cent. less 2 per cent. The condition is slightly below the average, though Vermont shows a superior average of 4 per cent. In cotton the average production slightly exceeds that of 1873. The season was unpropitious for planting, and the floods in Louisiana and Georgia have rendered replanting necessary, and damaged those previously sown. The weather lately been favorable, however, and it is hoped that the July report will compare favorably with that of last year. In apples, twenty-one States report a percentage above the average, and twelve below. The latter are Southern States, in which the late frosts were very destructive. New York's increase is 3 per cent., Vermont's, 4; New Jersey's, 11, and Connecticut's 18, the highest on the list. In the Eastern peach-growing States there is a falling off in that crop of from 20 to 40 per cent., but in the States west of the Ohio there is a full average. There is a generally unfavorable showing in regard to pears. The extreme western States show a large increase in clover, but in others there is not the increase than an average, and in New York 11 per cent. below. In maple sugar there was a general increase in production, reaching 50 per cent. in New England, 27 in New York, and from 6 to 12 in several other States. On the whole the crop prospect for 1874 is unusually favorable.

POLITICAL.

State.

The Republicans of Union county have nominated for Congress Scott Clingham; Assembly, Charles S. Wolfe.

It is said the Democrats of the Luzerne district will nominate Payne Pettebone, a wealthy man, for Congress. Hon. L. D. Shoemaker will be renominated by the Republicans.

The Democracy of Chester county have indorsed Warren J. Woodward, of Berks, for Judge of Supreme Court. The delegates elected to the State Convention are: Senatorial, Joseph Hemphill; Representative, James Keeler, Dr. J. Stewart Leech, William W. Davis and M. K. Ferry.

The following is a correct list of the Republican nominees in Somerset county: Congress, W. H. Koontz; Senate, E. D. Yutzy; Legislature, William Endsley and Joseph D. Miller; District Attorney, James L. Pugh; Commissioner, O. W. Boyer; Poor House Director, Samuel Trent; Auditor, D. S. Miller.

A prominent candidate for the Republican nomination for Lieutenant Governor of this State is ex-Senator James Graham of Allegheny county. We notice that the delegates to the State Convention from that county are instructed to vote for Mr. Graham, and it is probable that the delegates from numerous other western counties will be similarly instructed. Mr. Graham would be a strong candidate, and as the Governor is from the more eastern portion of the Commonwealth, the west will claim the Lieutenant Governor on sectional grounds.—*Scranton Republican.*

The Clearfield county Republicans held their convention on the 3d inst., and elected W. C. Arnold delegate to the State Convention, instructed to support General J. M. Campbell as first choice for candidate for Lieutenant Governor, Colonel R. B. Beaver as first choice for candidate for Secretary of Internal Affairs, and General Harrison Allen as first choice for candidate for Auditor General. After the appointment of Senatorial Conferees and the adoption of resolutions indorsing the National and State administration, the Convention adjourned.

Josiah Funck, Esq., one of the leading lawyers of Lebanon, is suggested as the Republican candidate for Associate Law Judge of that district at the coming election.

James Rankin and S. D. Way have been appointed Representative delegates to the Republican State Convention from Centre county. The go uninstructed as to candidates.

President Grant evidently don't please the Harrisburg *Patriot*. As the General was born for the exclusive purpose of pleasing that paper, the disappointment is sad indeed.—*Williamsport Gazette and Bulletin.*

The standing committee of the Labor Reform party in Schuylkill county have adopted a resolution endorsing the course of Hon. John W. Morgan, the Republican Representative from Schuylkill in the last Legislature.

A correspondent writes from Tunkhannock: "Wyoming, as you are aware, is a Democratic county, but we expect to swing it over on the Additional Law Judgeship, for which office it is expected that Judge Ingham, of Laporte, will be nominated.

For the Democratic nominations for Assembly in Washington county, Pa., the following are the candidates: John Birch, of Claysville; J. A. Lambert, of Greenfield; James Kerr, of Carroll; James Donaldson, of Robinson; Dr. W. G. Barnett, of Canonsburg.

Hon. Henry M. Jones, of Susquehanna county, is being urged by his friends as the proper man to receive the Republican nomination for Auditor General. Mr. Jones has represented the Susquehanna and Wyoming counties in the lower house of the Legislature for the past two years, and made an excellent record. He would receive the heartiest support in the entire northern tier, if nominated.

Amid the jarring wrangle of adherents of rival candidates for the several offices on the State ticket, to be voted for in November, it must be gratifying to the friends of General Harrison Allen to know that so well and ably has he served as Auditor General that no name is mentioned anywhere in opposition to him, and that, throughout the entire Commonwealth, public opinion seems for once to be unanimous in its verdict of approval of the faithful and intelligent manner in which the duties of the Auditor General's office have been discharged.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

There appears to be a warm contest among leading Republicans for the offices to be filled this fall in Lancaster county. Hon. A Herr Smith is a candidate for re-election to Congress, but his claims will be contested by David Evans, John P. Rea and Emlen Franklin, all of the city, who are announced as candidates for the same position. P. J. Rothrock, of Warwick, and John M. Stohman, of Penn township, are announced as candidates for State Senator. There are eleven candidates for Assembly already in the field. Two for Associate Law Judge; three for County Commissioner; four for Prison Inspector; three for District Attorney, and four for Directors of the Poor, making thirty-four candidates out for office so far. The primary elections take place on Saturday, August 15th.

A. H. Fiske, Esq., of White township, is the latest Democratic aspirant for Assembly that Cambria county has produced. In a private letter published in this week's *Democrat* he says that he is not an office-seeker, yet "should the Democracy, in their wisdom assembled, call him from his obscurity to these high responsibilities with a commendable unanimity, he should probably waive his own inclinations scruples, bow to their pleasure, and gracefully as he could accept their call." Just so. But if we understand the Democratic party aright, the office of Assemblyman in this county is not seeking the man to any great extent just at present. On the contrary there are at least *ten* aspirants for the position, and a peck of hungrier political cormorants is not often seen. That "commendable unanimity" which is thought desirable will probably be looked for in vain.—*Johnstown Tribune.*

H. J. Mohan, of Minersville, Schuylkill county, is spoken of as a Democratic candidate for Assembly.

Hon. P. Gray Meek and Hon. William A. Wallace are competitors for the Democratic candidacy of their Senatorial district. Wallace is said to have the "inside track."

Judge Orvis, appointed Judge of the Twenty-fifth Judicial District—Clearfield, Clinton and Centre—is "on the track" for election on this fall without opposition from his own or the Republican party.

A special from Harrisburg to the Philadelphia *All-Day City Item* says: Letters from various parts of the State indicate that the Senatorship will be sought by a number of distinguished gentlemen, among them, Winthrop W. Ketchum, Gen. Albright, Gen. Harry White, Benj. H. Brewster, Judge Brewster, John M. Packer, J. B. Moorhead, Wm. H. Kemble.

A letter from Huntingdon contains the following statement, which, it is to be hoped, may prove to be true: The serious political quarrel in the Republican ranks, which has been going on in this county for some time, is nearly or quite healed, and the Democrats are chagrined thereat, as they hoped to carry the county owing to these differences.

A Harrisburg letter to a Philadelphia contemporary says: Hon. James L. Graham is growing in favor with the people in connection with the Lieutenant Governorship. Should Mr. Graham conclude to be a candidate, the chances for Colonel Beath for Secretary of Internal Affairs will brighten, as his most formidable competitor is Hon. Thomas J. Bigham, who is from the same county with Mr. Graham—Allegheny.

The special from Mauch Chunk says: In the recent redistricing of the State, General Albright was almost left out in the cold; but it is believed that his great personal popularity, owing to the intrepidity, the purity and benevolence of his character, will enable him to overcome the very large Democratic majority against him. General Albright is, perhaps, the only man in the State who could compete successfully with the tremendous opposition vote.

A Harrisburg scribbler states that "It is well understood that Colonel McClure has the sympathy and will have the support of a considerable element in both the Democratic and Republican parties in the election to the State Senate. Buckalew, Curtin, and other influences, are industriously at work to secure his re-election, and it is said that he has the promise of the Republican organization to send him back to Harrisburg." All of which should be taken with full margin of disbelief.

The Allentown *Chronicle* says: According to the state as published in this morning's *Herald*, of this city, Jacob S. Dillinger, Esq., will be substituted as Senatorial Delegate to the Democratic State Convention, which meets in Pittsburgh on August 26th, in place of Mr. Sowden, who is a candidate for the nomination of Lieutenant Governor. This will give the following delegation stand as follows: Senatorial Delegate, Jacob S. Dillinger; Representative Delegates, Hon. Ddward Harvey, Thomas E. Metzger, Esq., and Col. M. H. Horn. The Democratic Congressional Conferees from Northampton, the upper townships of Bucks, and Lehigh, met at Fetter's Hotel, Old South Bethlehem, this afternoon, pursuant to adjournment, and it is probable they will be able to agree upon an apportionment of the district.

Iowa.

HON. JOHN A. KASSON RENOMINATED FOR CONGRESS.

DES MOINES, IA., July 10.—The Republican Congressional primary elections in this city to-day were warm and spirited. About six hundred votes were cast in West Des Moines township, and four hundred and fifty more in East Des Moines township. The contest was between John A. Kasson, the present Congressman, and Gen. J. A. Williamson. Kasson carried both townships, having 17 majority in West Des Moines, and 90 in East Des Moines. Kasson arrived home from Washington last Monday, and has spent the week in effective electioneering, making personal appeals for support, he having abandoned his previously announced intention not to be a candidate. There is considerable feeling over the result among the friends of Williamson, who claim that Williamson would not have been a candidate only on the plain understanding that Kasson would not be a candidate. Williamson has always been a partizan friend and supporter of Kasson.

Iowa.

DES MOINES COUNTY REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

BURLINGTON, IA., July 11.—At the Republican County Convention, this afternoon, delegates were elected to the Congressional Convention, to be held in Fairfield, August 4th, and also to the Judicial Convention of the First district. The Convention was harmonious and enthusiastic. A resolution was adopted directing the Congressional delegates to use all honorable means to secure the nomination of Hon. John H. Gear.

Ohio.

DARK COUNTY REPUBLICAN CONVENTION—CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATES FOR HON. LEWIS B. GUNCKEL.

DAYTON, O., July 12.—At the Dark County Convention yesterday, delegates to the Republican Congressional Convention of the Fourth District were appointed, and the foregoing resolution was adopted with enthusiasm and applause:

Resolved, That we hereby instruct the delegates from this county at the approaching Congressional Convention to give to Hon. Lewis B. Gunckel, our worthy Representative in Congress, their united and cordial support first, last and all the time.

The convention was the largest held in the county for some years, and was enthusiastic for Gunckel throughout.

General.

The Mt. Vernon *Banner* says the new Constitution will be the worst defeated candidate that ever ran in Ohio.

The Stark county, O., *Democrat* takes its place in the ranks of papers that oppose the new Constitution. The Wayne county *Democrat* also takes the same ground.

Boston is the only town in the country where the Fourth has been celebrated every year, since the peace of 1783, under the auspices of the municipal authorities.

The Ohio Republican State Central Committee will meet at Columbus on Thursday next, the 16th inst., at which time the date for holding the State Convention will be fixed.

It is reported that Minister Andrews, now of Stockholm, proposes to resign and return to Minnesota, and contest for the vacancy caused by the expiration of Ramsey's Senatorial term.

The Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune* predicts Senator Thurman's nomination for President by the Democratic Convention, and Speaker Blaine's nomination by the Republicans.

The Connecticut *Temperance Journal* nominates for President Governor Talbot, of Massachusetts, "who regards his oath and conscience more than personal advancement or political favor."

The Democratic papers seem to consider the question of future salvation, but they are fearfully worried about future resumption. Human nature is a curious thing to deal with.—*Dayton Journal.*

Hon. D. T. Lawson, of Wellsville, is prominently spoken of as a Democratic candidate for Congress in his district, composed of the counties of Columbiana, Carroll, Stark and Mahoning, Ohio.

General.

Toledo O., has a new Democratic paper, the *Herald and Democrat* having consolidated their feeble energies in one concern.

The Cleveland *Plaindealer* has a correspondent in the Ohio Penitentiary. If the inmates of that institution could vote, it would add nearly a thousand to the aggregate Democratic vote of the State.—*Toledo Blade.*

The St. Louis *Amerika* (German) sums up the objects of the new party movement in Missouri as follows: "Schurz wants to be re-elected Senator, the *Republican* wants to regain its old influence in the Democratic party, and the *Democrat* wants to get at the public crib again, even though the Republican party should be turned out by it." The *Amerika* adds that such material is not of a kind wherewith to form new parties.

The Republicans have sixteen, the Democrats twenty and the Independents twenty-four members elected to the House in Ohio. Add to this number the Democrats and Republicans who are elected were men of independent procivilities, nominated by the old parties to neutralize the power of the Independents, and nominated before the Independents made nominations. The Senate is supposed to stand: Republicans eleven, Democrats twelve, Independents nine.

In Iowa the Democrats are generally united with the farmers' party to oppose the Administration. In Missouri, however, the Democrats oppose both the other factions with equal vigor, while the Republicans are trying to form a coalition with the Grangers. Altogether, affairs are greatly mixed. The